

Fourth Quarter, 1991

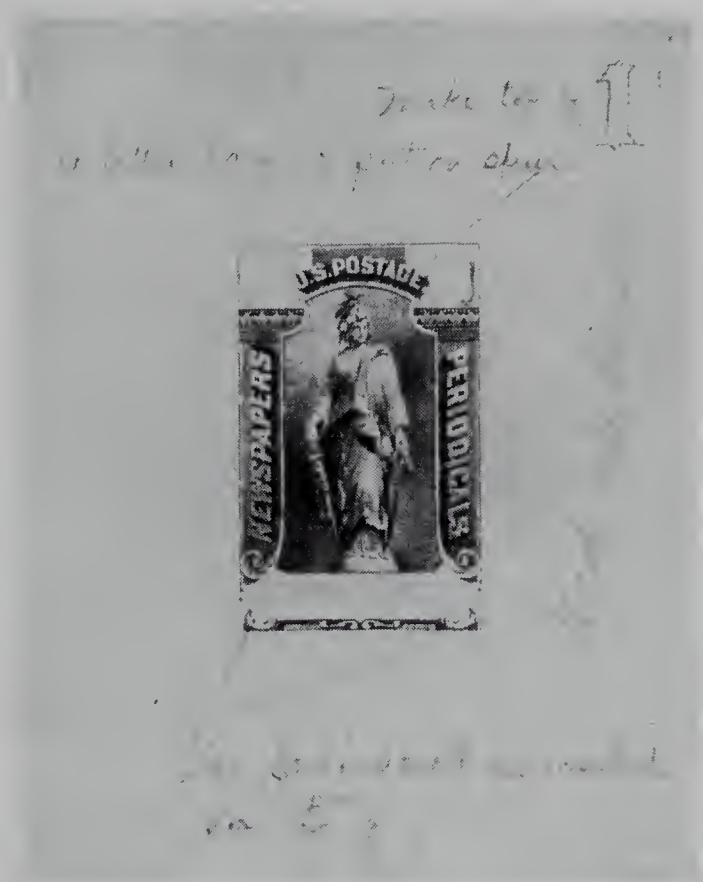
Vol. 48, No. 4

Whole No. 192

ISSN-0014-0848

# The Essay-Proof Journal

**Devoted to the Historical and Artistic  
Background of Stamps and Paper Money**



In this issue: "Notes on a 'Ten Cent Lady'" and her listing in the new Scott's U.S. "Specialized" Catalogue, by Don Bakos.



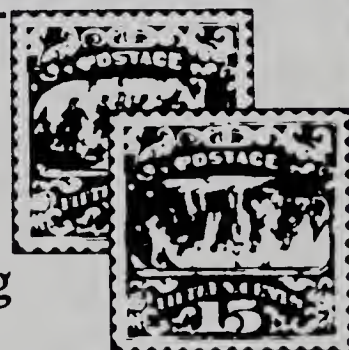
**Official Journal of the Essay-Proof Society**

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# The Essay Proof Journal

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Vol. 48, No. 4

FOURTH QUARTER 1991

Whole No. 192

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Published Quarterly by the Essay-Proof Society  
Affiliate #159, American Philatelic Society

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## Editor

Barbara R. Mueller, 225 S. Fischer Ave., Jefferson, Wis. 53549

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**Subscription Rate \$20.00 per year in advance**

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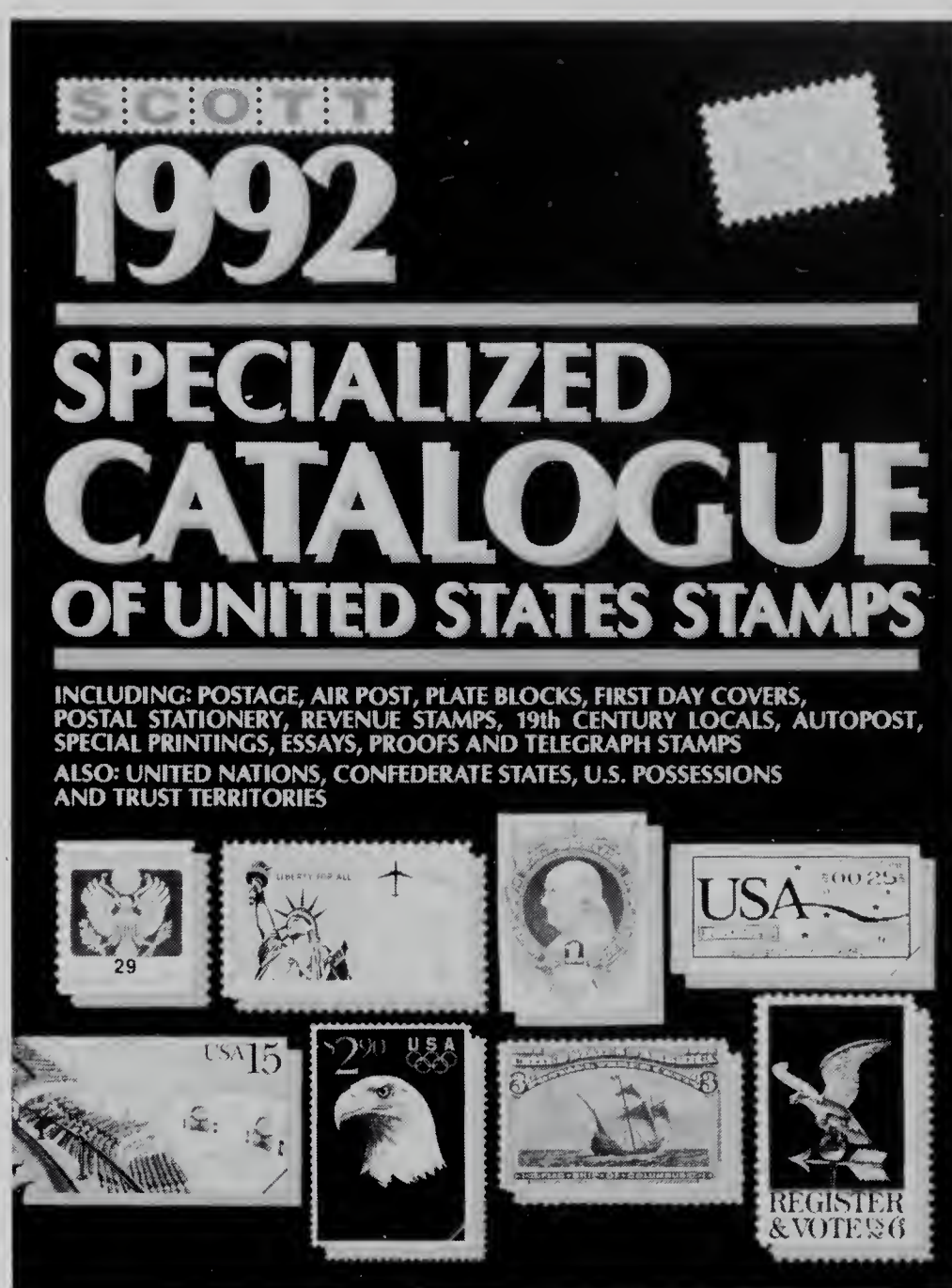
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## 1992 Scott's U.S. "Specialized" Catalogue Begins Listing Essays

### A Most Significant Development in the History of the Specialty

**C**OLLECTING U.S. essays made enormous strides forward in the 1940s with the research of Dr. Clarence Brazer and publication in 1941 of his *Essays for U.S. Adhesive Postage Stamps*. The Essay-Proof Society and this JOURNAL began in 1944. The specialty quickly achieved respectability in philately as a whole but it then plateaued for a number of reasons, including the relative scarcity of the material and the lack of readily available reference works. The original Brazer catalogue was published in a limited wartime edition and the Quarterman reprint of 1977 quickly sold out. So it was that in the summer of 1991 most specialists greeted with great enthusiasm the unexpected news that Scott was adding essays to its proof listings, although they wondered how Scott would present the listings—a reprint of Brazer, their own system, or a combination of both.



The "Specialized" was released just as this issue of the JOURNAL was being prepared, so for now we shall confine remarks to a straight-forward description of what is listed and how. We hope to have more technical critiques by leading specialists in forthcoming issues. It must be stated at the outset that this Society was in no way involved in the listing, although individual members may have cooperated privately. While the credit line to the Society remains in the introduction to the proof listings, there is no reference at all to the Society, to Brazer, or to any of the other pioneer students in the introduction to the essay section. Only an explanation of the occasional use of the old Ridgway color nomenclature that Brazer favored gives a hint of the origin of the listings.

The original Brazer catalogue was published by the American Philatelic Society, so I cannot comment on the status of that copyright, which was dated 1941. The Quarterman reprint was copyrighted in 1977 and included by special permission the addenda which appeared in *The American Philatelist* from March 1942 to January 1947. Nowhere in the front matter of the 1992 Specialized is given any acknowledgment of these previous works or of Falk Finkelburg's revision of the 19th century portion of Brazer which was serialized in this JOURNAL beginning with No. 128. A hasty examination of the Scott listings shows that the addenda which appeared in the JOURNAL independent of the *AP* have not been included, for example, the 2c denominated design for the 3c Summer Olympics of 1933.

Incidentally, 20th century essays in Scott stop at this point and so do not include the Morris essays for the Presidentials as listed by Brazer in the original catalogue or the Steven Dohanos essays for the Army-Navy issue as listed in the *AP* addenda.

The presence of the essay section is heralded on the cover of the book with the words NEW! ESSAY SECTION and a reproduction of an attractive one-cent 1869 essay. The section begins on page 394, just after the "special printings" and before the proofs. It runs to page 461. Listings start with the Albany and New York postmaster provisionals and proceed to the 1847 regulars. The disputed 5c and 10c essays whose history is given in JOURNAL 166 by Dr. Stanley Bierman are included with the note "the status of No. 1-E1 [and 2-E1] has been questioned" and no prices are quoted.

The numbering system is quite similar to Brazer's and Finkelburg's. (The latter brought up to date the old Scott style numbering for the 1847s and the 1851-57 series. Thus Brazer 28 E-A became 1E-A according to Finkelburg.) It seems that Scott has decided to change the Brazer convention of referring to each major essay type by a capital letter to a numeral system. Thus, jumping over to the three-cent banknotes, Brazer 147E-Ed becomes 147-E11. At first glance it appears that the Scott system will prove to be less confusing and more flexible, but it will mean that the trade will have to revise their listings accordingly.

Will there be a demand for the Brazer books now that essays are in the Specialized? Yes, because Scott's listings are necessarily bare bones, omitting such extra information as engravers' names and other background data. Moreover, the original Brazer illustrations and even the less clear ones in Quarterman and Finkelburg are better than those in Scott, many of which can be seen to have been copied from sources other than the actual essays and are somewhat truncated. Nevertheless, many eyes will be opened to the charms of essay collecting when they see the Scott listings.

The pricing structure is already causing considerable debate, with some professionals claiming that the values assigned to unique (one of a kind) items are too low and that others assigned to relatively plentiful material are too high. However, we must keep in mind that this is a first effort and be patient with Scott.

The pages of this JOURNAL are open to the Scott editors for discussion about this and all other aspects of the essay listing in the interests of furthering the specialty. Moreover, comments, corrections, and additions to individual listings are also solicited. Undoubtedly, this landmark in essay-proof collecting will provide us with material for many forthcoming issues of the JOURNAL as well as many new members.

BRM

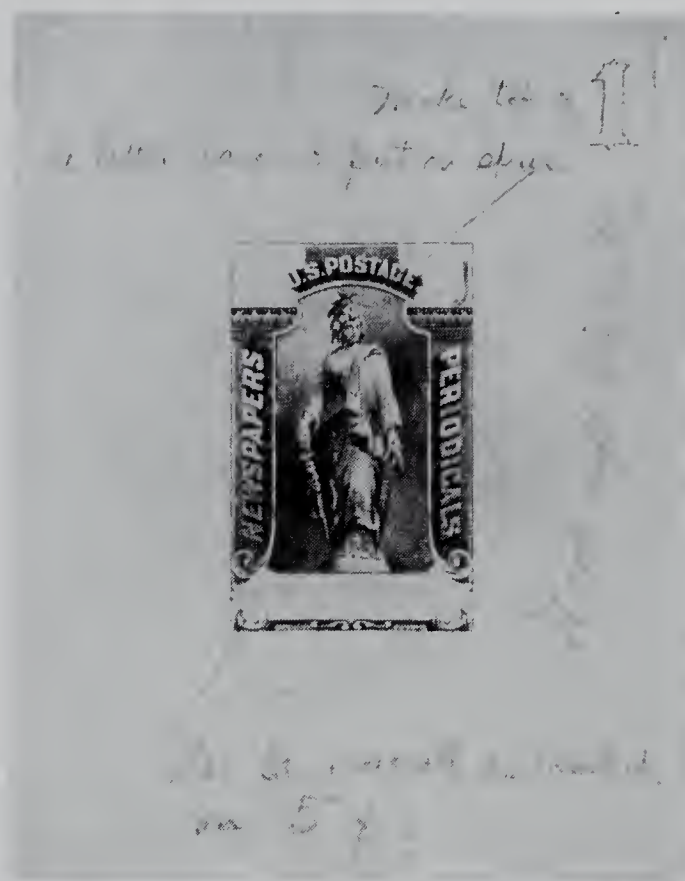


Fig. 1 The subject at hand: Brazer #PR102E-A.

## U.S. Newspaper Stamps—First Bureau Issue Preparation

### Notes on a “Ten Cent Lady”

by DON BAKOS

#### Important—Please Note!

The body of this article was prepared before release of the 1992 edition of *Scott's U.S. Specialized Catalogue* with the newly-added listing of essays. In order to make this study as complete as possible, the author has added an “Epilogue” analyzing those listings for the newspaper stamp essays in question and proposing his corrections. Please keep this in mind as you read. *The Editor*

**A**LTHOUGH the original Brazer book and its several addenda form the definitive reference work on essays and proofs of U.S. adhesives, the passage of time and the absence of updated editions to that work have left the unlisted in some weird sort of arrested limbo while the uncorrected have fallen into a dangerous quasi-reality of uncontested acceptance. So it is with the subject at hand.

Figure 1 is a full-size illustration for the 1895 Newspaper Issue of what is listed as PR102E in Brazer's original handbook. In a later addenda it is renumbered as PR102E-A. Dr. Brazer refers to it as follows on page 215:





Fig. 2. Enlargement of PR102E-A. In the upper right corner, note the shading along the right side of the "0" in the "10". Also the faintly sketched "TEN CENTS" in the lower value label.

PR102E ONE CENT.

Size of design 21.5×34.5 mm.

Size of die 56×75 mm.

Frame engraved by James Kennedy

Incomplete engraving of entire design. Upper corners and lower label blank.

On india paper with lead pencil instructions to engraver;  
(unique)

black

In the addenda it is described this way:



Note. On page 215 illustration titles  
PR102E-Aa & PR103E-Aa should  
be reversed.

PR102E-A      ONE CENT.

This cut is transposed with  
PR103E-Aa.

Figure 2 is an enlargement of Figure 1 and includes the same design area as that shown in the handbook on page 215. It should be noted here that the essay illustrated in both Figures 1 and 2 is the same essay that Brazer used for the illustration in his book.

Note that this is not a “ONE CENT” essay at all! In fact, it is the first design stage of the TEN CENT essays. Quite clearly you can detect a “10” in the upper right hand corner of the design with partial shading on the right side of the “0”. Likewise, the lower value label has a very lightly sketched “TEN CENTS”. The first of these significant elements is also visible in the book illustration.

Upon examination of Figure 1 once again, one notes the pencil instruction in Morris’ hand at the bottom of the design which provides a telling hint that reads as follows:

Use same scroll as marked on 5c

Here I reference Thomas F. Morris, Jr. and his fine article on this issue which appeared in *EPJ* Vol. 14, No. 53, pp. 3–5. In brief, and although he repeats the ongoing fiction ever again, he states that his father, Thomas F. Morris, Sr., personally carried through the design stages of all of the values of the 1895 Newspaper Issue. The 2c through 10c values were all born of one original essay die. Figure 3 is an illustration of the “Finished Proof” of this die. This 1c die, upon its completion, was taken up on a transfer roll. After this was done, the numerals and lower value label were removed from the roll and individual lay-down dies were made for the remaining three values in this subset.

In his study of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing records of dies and transfer rolls for the 1895 Newspapers, George Brett provides the following information which elaborates on and gives detail to Morris’ statements as outlined above.

<u>DIE # / ROLL #</u>	<u>DATE STARTED</u>	<u>DATE HARDENED</u>
1c P.O. Die #46	5/19/94	7/13 & 7/23/94
Made transfer rolls # 63, 65, and 68		
Roll #63	7/14/94	7/16/94
Roll #65	7/18/94	7/19/94
Roll #68	7/23/94	8/24/94
Roll #68 was a <i>nondenominated</i> roll and was used to start P.O. Dies #65, 66, and 67.		
2c P.O. Die #65	8/25/94	10/4/94
5c P.O. Die #66	8/25/94	10/2/94
10c P.O. Die #67	8/27/94	10/4/94

There is no record that a lay-down die was ever taken from this cut-down transfer roll #68 and then re-engraved in the ONE CENT denomination, the most obvious factor being that to do so would have been redundant.

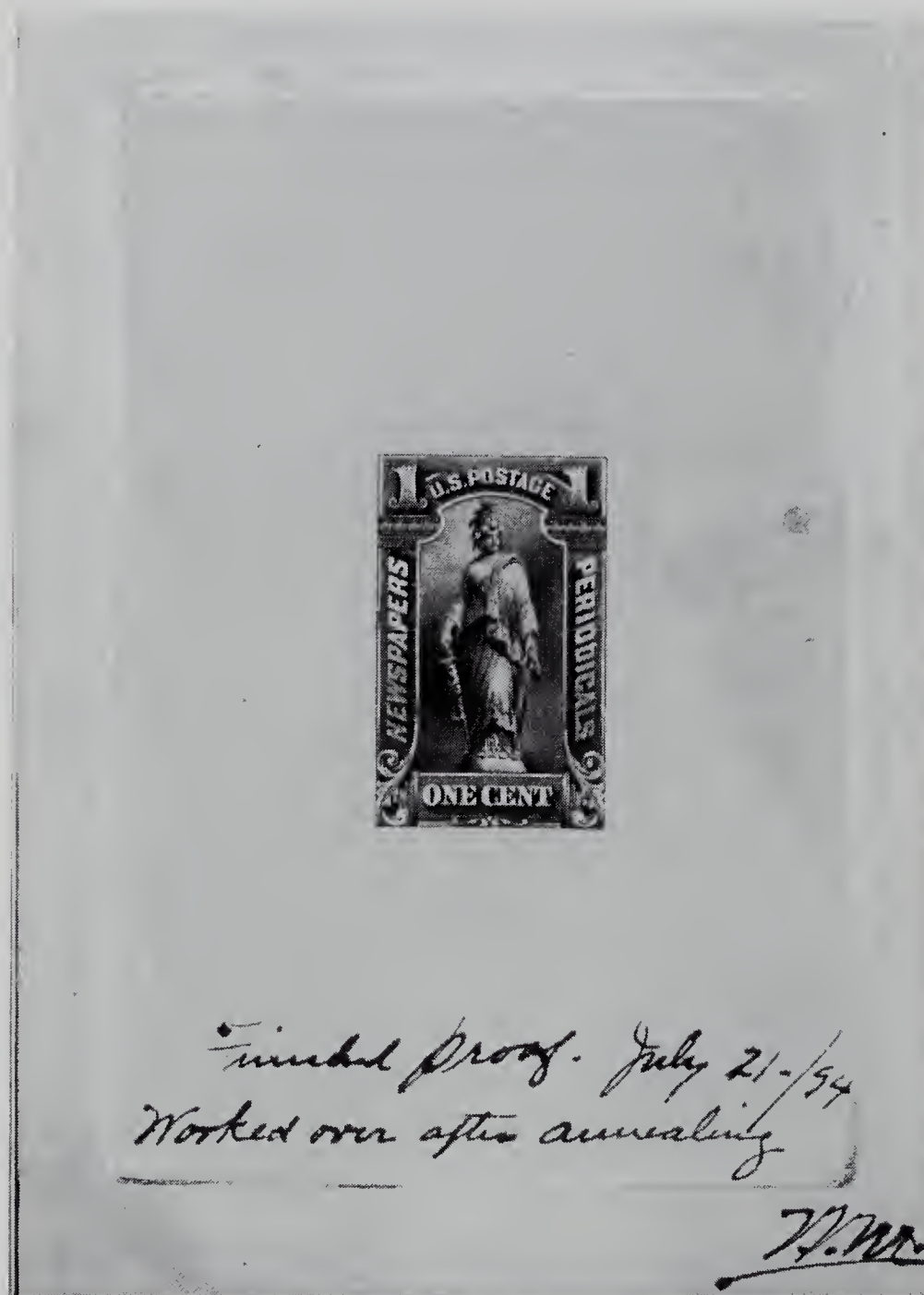


Fig. 3. The Morris' "Finished Proof" of PR102. The shading is complete throughout the entire design.

Brett's research shows that the 10c die was begun on 8/27/94 and hardened on 10/4/94, while the 5c die was both begun and completed two days earlier. Since the 5c Die #66 had already been completed while work on the 10c Die #67 was still underway, Morris' pencil notation makes a great deal of sense, but only if he were referring to commencement of work on a *TEN CENT* die.

Of far greater consequence is the fact that the only known 1c essays are complete as to the design elements themselves. More important, however, is another characteristic which they all have in common: they all **LACK** some portion of the shading on the side lettering, the numerals, or the lower value label. Figure 4 is an illustration of one of these essays, PR102E-Ab.

As can be seen, in Figure 1, **ALL** of the shading is complete on this lay-down die. This is especially noticeable on the side lettering. Furthermore, upon examination of the large hand-sketched numeral "1" in the upper right corner of the die sinkage as shown in Figure 2, and Morris' accompanying notation which reads as follows:



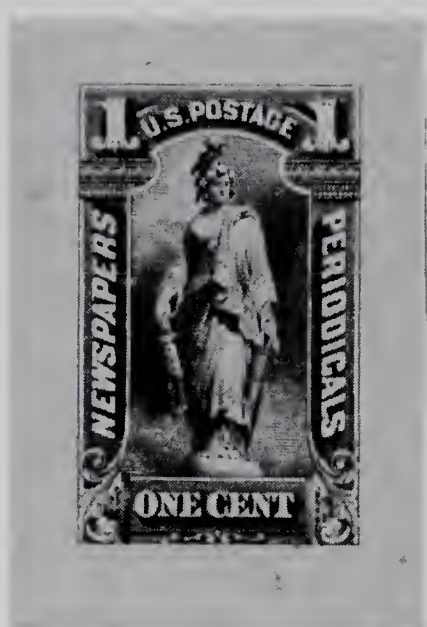


Fig. 4. PR102E-Ab. This essay shows all elements of the design to be complete. It lacks only the shading in the appropriate areas.



Fig. 5. Enlarged upper-right design area of PR105, the 10c Newspaper stamp, showing the same style numeral "1" as penciled in by Morris at the upper-right of the essay shown in Figures 1 and 2.

make top of 1  
a little larger & put on spur

it can quite clearly be discerned that this is of the same numeral style that was adopted for use on the final 10c design as shown in Figure 5. The numeral type used on the finished 1c denomination as shown in Figure 3 is of a totally different size, structure, and serif arrangement.

And lastly, the Die Block size of the essay in Figures 1 and 2 measures  $56\text{mm} \times 75\text{mm}$  while the dimensions of Morris' "Finished Proof" are  $69\text{mm} \times 100\text{mm}$  respectively. If the essay in Figures 1 and 2 was indeed a lay-down die which progressed into becoming the "Finished Proof" in Figure 3, there is no way to account for the increase in Die Block size. Had the dimensioning progressed from larger to smaller in size, the possibility might exist that the die, upon completion, was cut down for some reason. This is highly unlikely. Even Dr. Brazer, on page 216 of his handbook under the listing for the remaining *10c essays* known to him at the time, lists their "size of die" as being  $56\text{mm} \times 75\text{mm}$ .

Since all of the lay-down dies owe their conception to the finished ONE CENT proof die and its transfer roll, it becomes evident that there was no lay-down die for the ONE CENT value and that the essay in both Figure 1 and in Brazer's handbook has been miscatalogued all these years.

## Epilogue

Publication of the listings contained in the new Scott "Specialized" Catalogue "Essay Section" has only served to further convolute and confound the problem. By simply repeating vir-

tually all of the original errors contained in the Brazer book and with the careless addition of others, the editors at Scott have only placed a larger cloud over an already obscured view.

The two charts below show an item to item comparison between the new Scott numbering scheme and the corresponding Brazer number:

SCOTT DESCRIPTIONS		
SCOTT NUMBER	BRAZER NUMBER	CORRECTION
PR102-E1a	PR102E-Aa	<i>The "TEN CENT LADY"</i>
PR102-E2a	PR102E-Ab	
PR102-E3a	PR102E-Ac	
PR102-E4a	PR102E-Ad	
PR103-E1a	PR103E-Aa	
PR103-E2a	PR103E-Ab	
PR103-E3a	PR103E-Ac	
PR104-E1a	PR104E	
PR105-E1a	PR105E-Aaa	
PR105-E2a	PR105E-Aa	
PR105-E3a	PR105E-Ab	
PR105-E4a	PR105E-Ac	

SCOTT ILLUSTRATIONS		
SCOTT NUMBER	BRAZER NUMBER	CORRECTION
PR102-E1	PR103-E-Aa	SCOTT IS INCORRECT. This is a 2c Essay.
PR103-E1	PR102E-Aa	SCOTT IS INCORRECT. This is the " <i>TEN CENT LADY</i> "
PR103-E2	PR103E-Ab	
PR104-E1	PR104E	
PR105-E1	PR105E-Aaa	
PR105-E2	PR105E-Aa	

As noted above, the subject of this examination (which is in fact a TEN CENT ESSAY) has once and yet again continued to be described as either a One Cent essay or a Two Cent Essay. In both cases the conclusion (illusion?) drawn is totally without foundation or substance.

Commentary

As recently as July of 1991 the fiction was again repeated when this essay was offered by a prominent Texas auction house. They simply chose to misdescribe the item as before and offer it as such.

I feel it is important for essay-proof enthusiasts to correct these errors as they come up and to keep bringing them up so that the passage of time does not continue to create a separate reality based upon the acceptance of misinformation disguised as fact.

Perhaps now that Scott has opened the door and provided the key, knowledgeable collectors and other interested parties can come forward, grasp the key and keep the door unlocked. By attempting to fill in the missing blanks and making available to Scott the needed corrections,

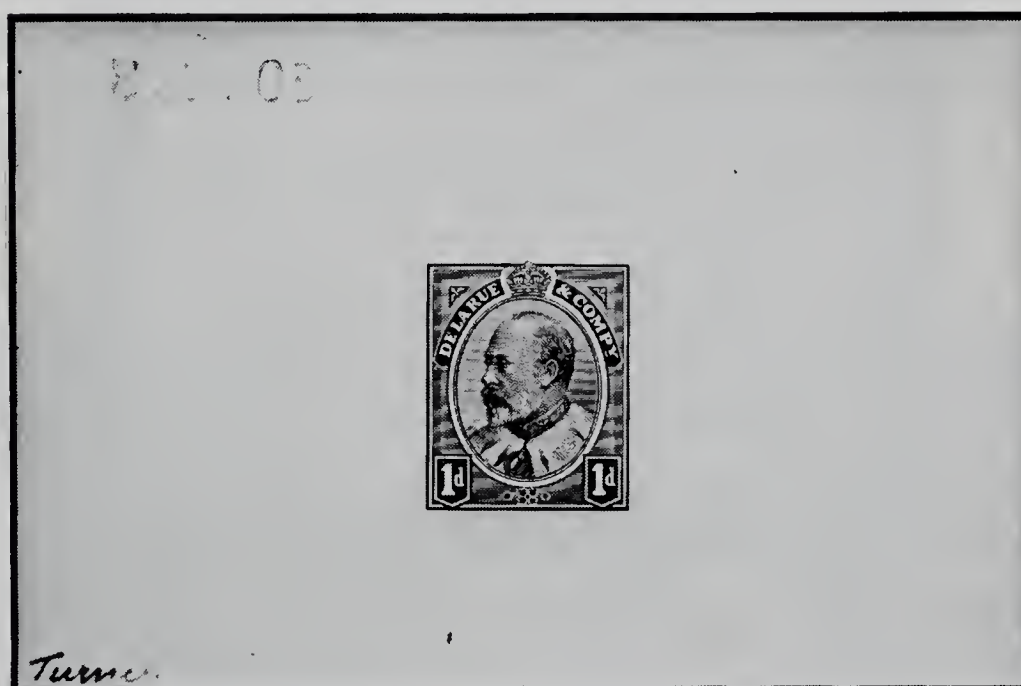


the 1993 and future editions of the "Essay Section" will reflect a more accurate image of what up until now has been a woefully incomplete picture.

If we as essay-proof collectors expect our avocation to flourish and to be attractive as a specialty to both neophytes and seasoned philatelists alike, it is imperative that we take the necessary, albeit at times painful, steps to add a measure of correction to what appears to be a problem with reality recognition.

Auction houses need to be more careful in their analysis of just exactly what they are offering to the marketplace. After all, they are among the primary dispensers of material in the essay-proof arena and there is really no excuse for repetitive error. Dealers and agents, if they are indeed knowledgeable in this specialty, have only themselves to blame should willful ignorance of these realities cause them financial distress due to client dissatisfaction.

And finally, although this is but one example of a kind of well-known neglect regarding fact-facing within certain areas of philately, further explorations into the quirky netherworld of fictional truth will undoubtedly be forthcoming.



580

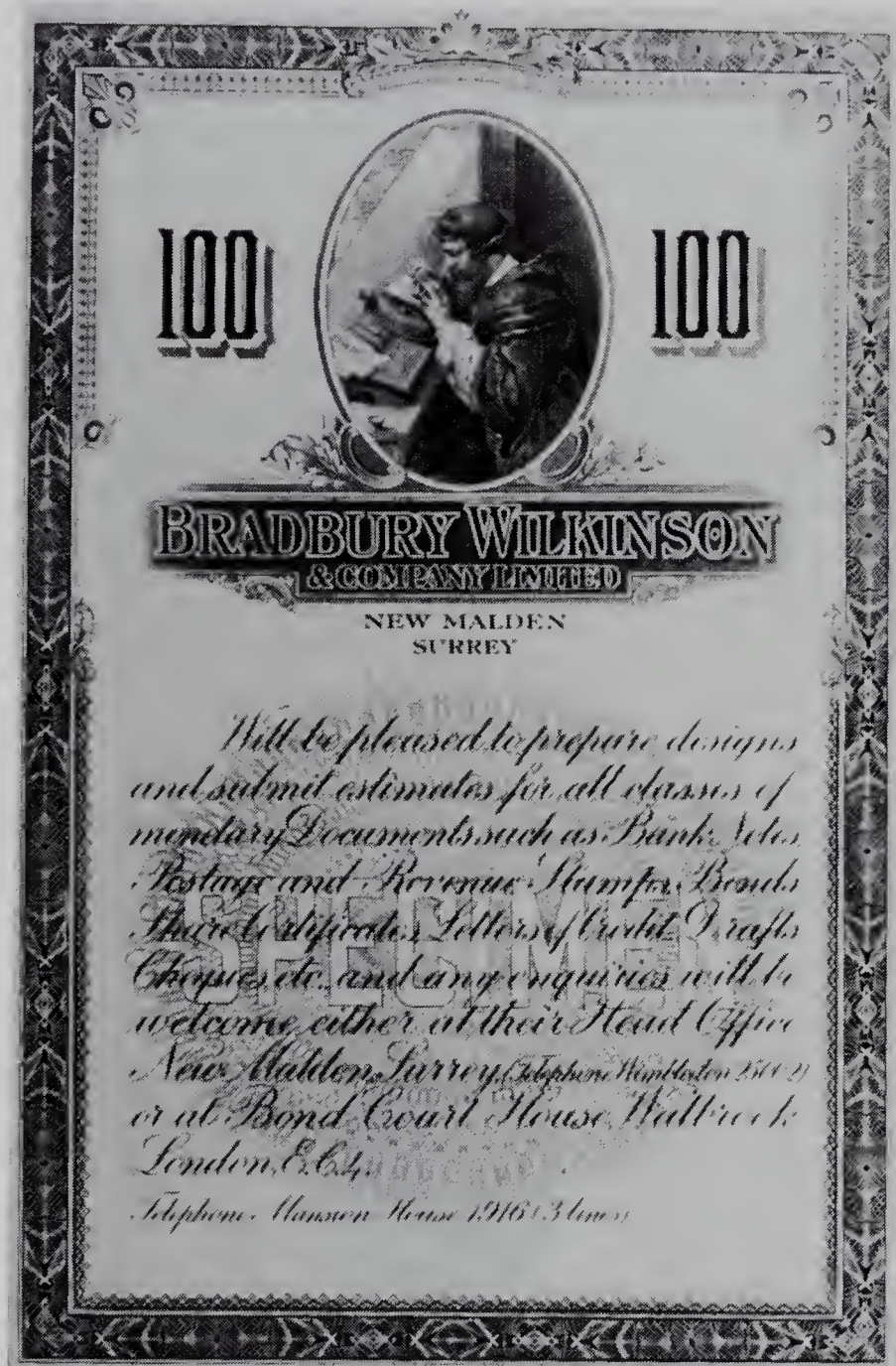
### Great Britain King Edward VII Essays

Among the many outstanding items in the March 12, 1991 Christie's Robson Lowe London sale were essays for and of the King Edward VII period in Britain. Lot 578 was:

1901 1D. PASTE-UP ESSAY IN DIE PROOF FORM ON GLAZED CARD  
(92×60MM.) WITH THE 1881 1D. LILAC FRAME AND THE FUCH'S  
LITHOGRAPHED PORTRAIT, SERIES A. DATED "MARCH 12-1901",  
FINE AND RARE. EX LICHFIELD.

£1,800 £2,640

Lots 579 and 580, each of which brought £352 against an estimate of £320 were of the essay/sample stamps inscribed De La Rue & Company with the so-called Canada Head of the King (as on Scott type A34). One was a dull orange color trial 69×76 mm ungummed on rosette watermarked paper and the other a die proof on glazed card 92×60 mm dated 8 JUN 03 and signed "Turner."



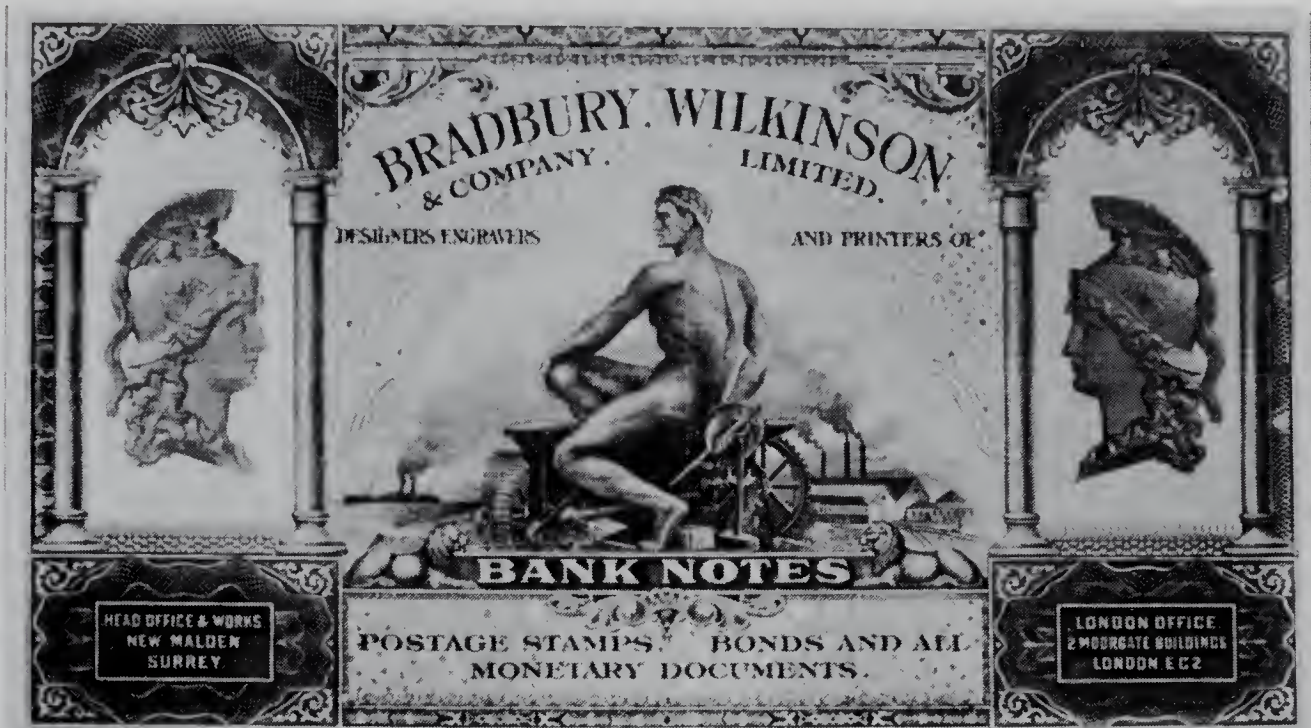
An advertising piece in the form of a security showing a medieval intaglio engraver. Known in blue and black, green and black, and red and black.

## Sample Bank Notes of Bradbury, Wilkinson

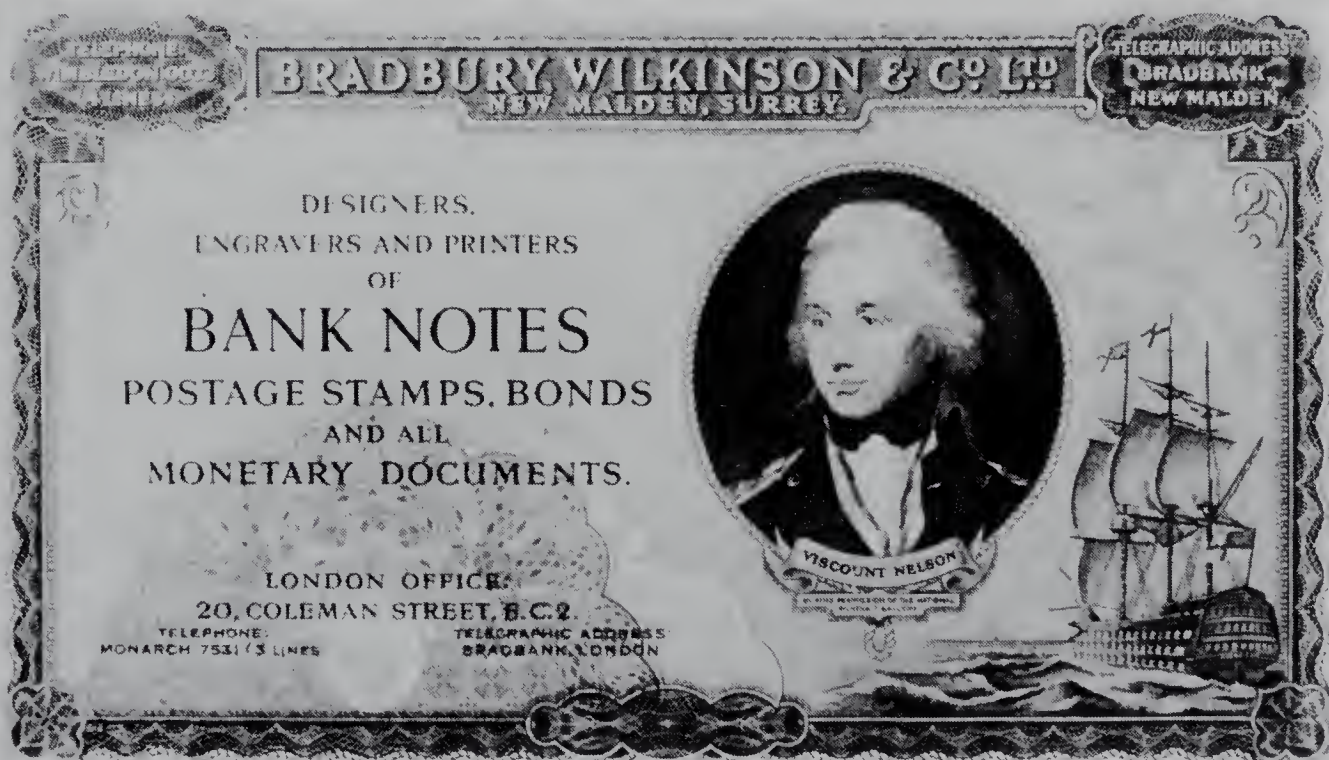
from the MIKE CRABB COLLECTION

**C**ONTINUING our project of showing selections of engraved sample/test bank notes of great security printers of the world from the Mike Crabb Collection, this quarter we concentrated on Bradbury, Wilkinson, the former American Bank Note Co. subsidiary in Britain from 1903 to 1986. In the latter year it was sold to De La Rue. Bradbury, Wilkinson first produced bank notes for banking firms in Montevideo, Uruguay in 1857. These are listed under varying imprints in Pick as PS253 and onward. The firm's first stamps were for the Indian state of Hyderabad, Scott type A3.



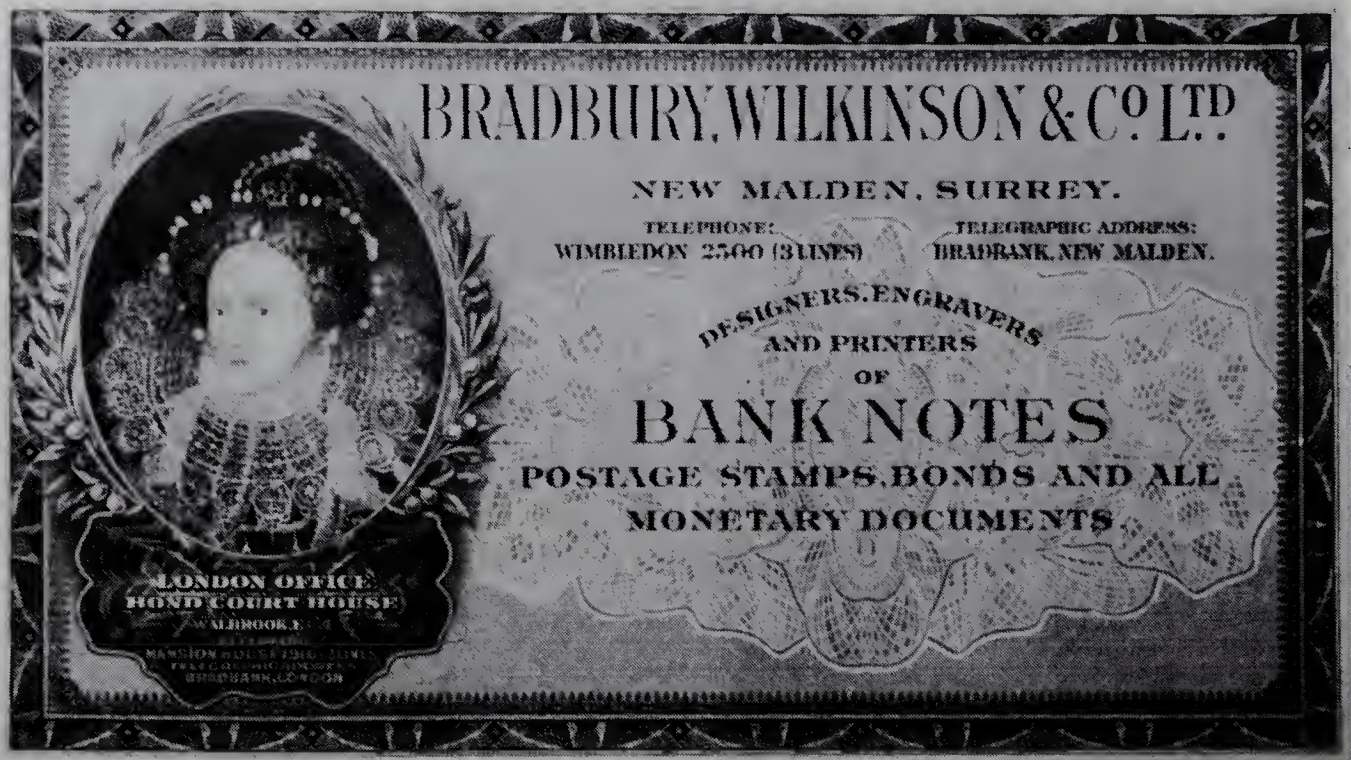


A sample note featuring a nude man, possibly symbolizing “industry,” flanked by classical niches in which appear representations of Athena. It is uniface and comes in blue, green, and purple multicolor versions.

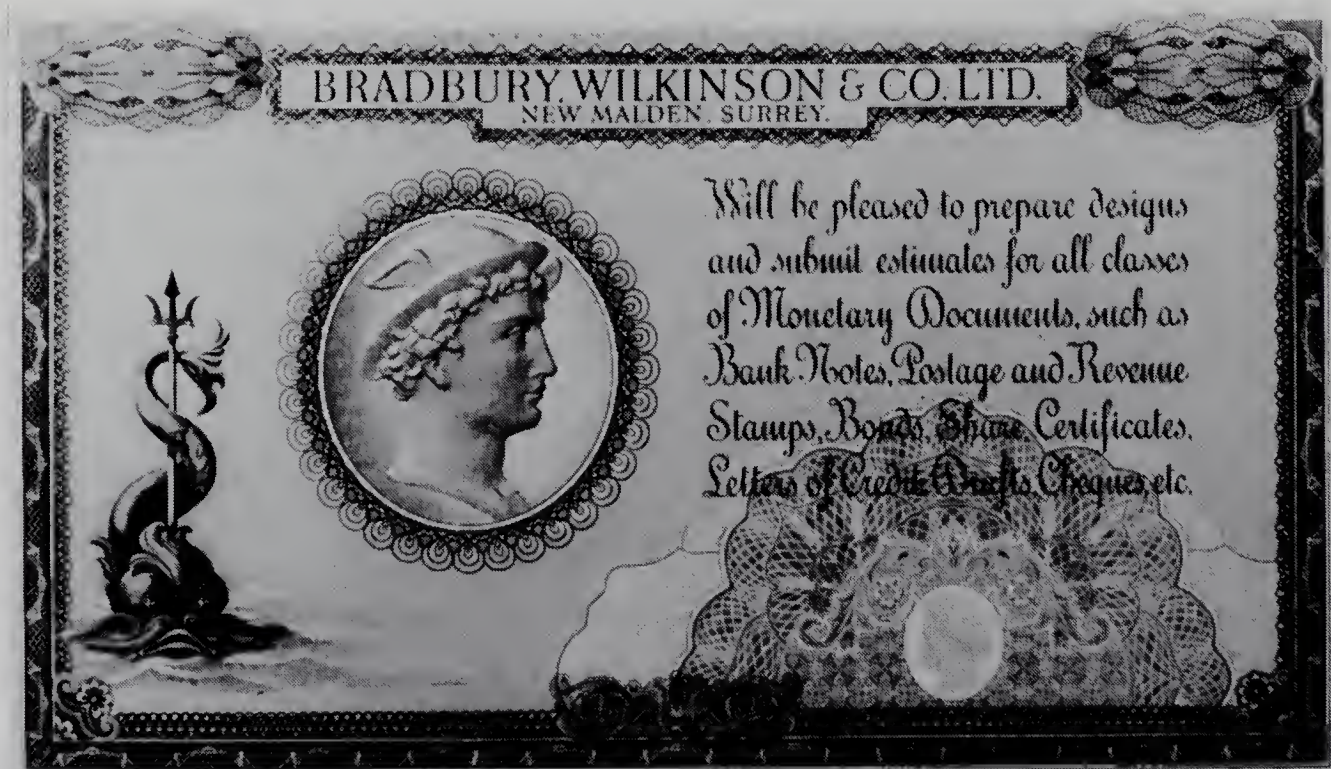


Lord Nelson and his ship on a purple multicolor with pinkish tints sample. Also seen in brownish multicolor.



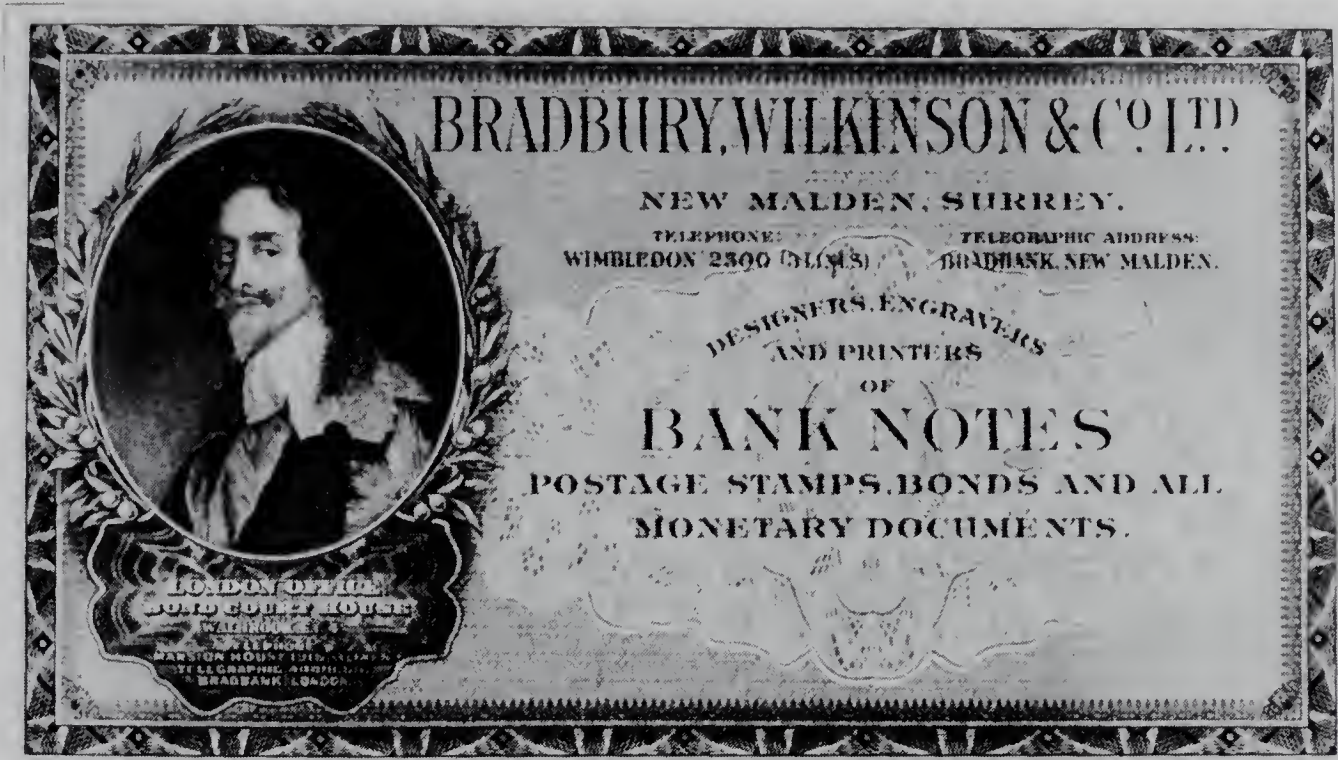


Queen Elizabeth I on a sample face known in purple and pink, rust and green, and black, greenish and lilac.



Hermes head flanked by Neptune and his trident on the left, inscription on the right and at lower right set into a guilloche a small, colorless male head. Known in brown purple with pinkish tints.



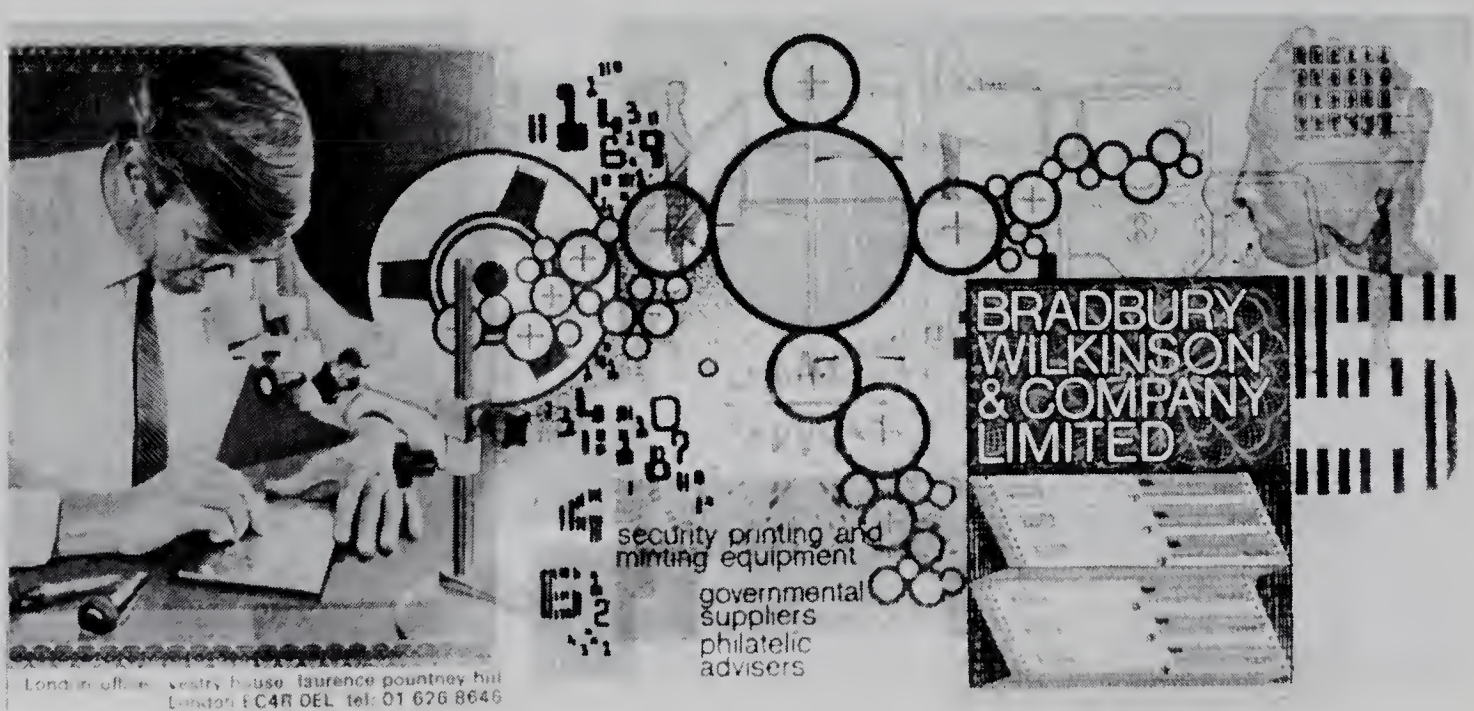




*The following illustrations of samples produced in a larger format, probably in the 1970–80 period, are somewhat truncated on the ends as they are reproduced from slides:*



“Commemorative” sample for the firm’s 125th anniversary showing the same medieval engraver seen on the sample security illustration on the first page of this article.



By contrast, a late 20th century engraver at work. Note the addition of the description “philatelic advisors” to “security printing and minting equipment/governmental advisors.”





Two versions of a sample note picturing Charles Dickens, a montage of his characters, and another montage of Dickensian urban scenes.

### References:

- "History of a Bank Note Printer Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. Ltd.," by W.E. Curtis, *Essay-Proof Journal* nos. 102–106, Vol. 26, No. 2 to Vol. 27, No. 2, 1969–1970. (Deals with the period 1824–1900, from inception to just prior to the acquisition by ABNCo. Written by a company employee.)
- "Bradbury, Wilkinson Archives Dispersal," by Barbara R. Mueller, *Essay-Proof Journal* no. 172, Vol. 43, No. 4, 4th quarter 1986, pp. 163–167.
- "Bradbury Bank Note Essay," *Essay-Proof Journal* no. 173, Vol. 44, No. 1, 1st quarter 1987, p. 24.
- "Unlisted Bradbury, Wilkinson Sample or Promotional Note Offered in Christie's Sale," *Essay-Proof Journal* no. 176, Vol. 44, No. 4, 4th quarter 1987, pp. 176–177.





Self-portrait of the artist as engraved by Jindra Schmidt. Number 174 of 200 prints.

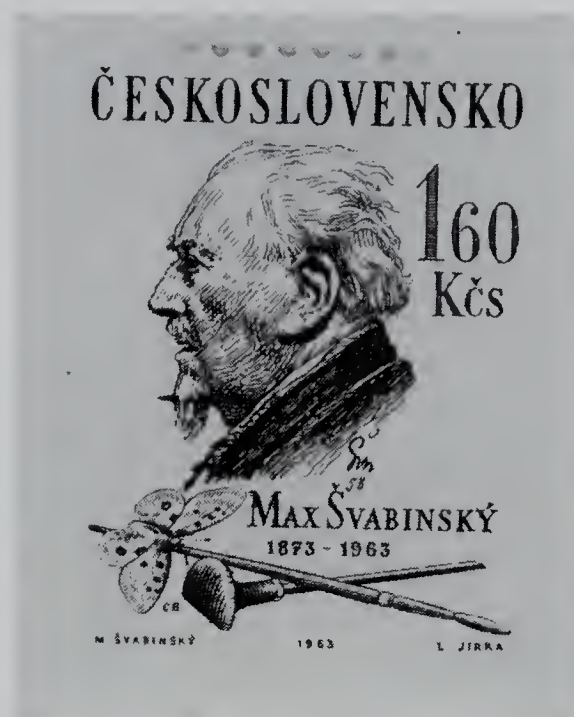
## Max Svabinsky, Czech Designer of Bank Notes and Postage Stamps

by GENE HESSLER

(Editor's Note: As reported in JOURNAL 191, Gene Hessler won the best-in-show award at the 1991 ANA convention exhibit with his display of the complete works of Max Svabinsky. He has now sent us photographs and write-up from the display, with special emphasis on Svabinsky's stamp designs. The check list of designs is not purported to be complete and exhaustive, but it is very comprehensive.)

Max Svabinsky (1873–1962) is cherished as a painter and graphic artist in Czechoslovakia, especially among stamp and bank note collectors. He studied at the Prague Academy and before the age of 40 was teaching at the Academy of Creative Arts. At the beautiful Cathedral of St. Vitus in Prague one of the large stained glass windows consists of "The Last Judgment,"





The artist's self-portrait interpreted by another engraver, L. Jirka, for Scott no. 1165.

a design by Svabinsky. In 1973, Jindra Schmidt engraved a portion of this design for Scott No. 1906, a portion of a set of six stamps in type A677 issued September 17, 1973 for the centenary of the birth of Svabinsky. Other works reproduced included: 20h "St. John the Baptist"; 60h "August Noon" (woman); 80h "Marriage of True Minds" (artist and muse); 1k "Paradise Sonata I" (Adam dreaming of Eve).

Obviously, Svabinsky was honored by his country many times. However, the most prestigious award came in 1951 when he was declared Czechoslovakia's National Artist or Národní Umělec.

Svabinsky's stamp designing career, as can be seen from the list of his work, began early in the history of the independent Czech Republic after World War II, and he was associated with the famous art nouveau artist Alfons Mucha, his contemporary (1860–1939). Mucha designed the first stamps of the Republic (Scott types A, A2, A7, D1, SD1, N1) and submitted an unaccepted design for a first anniversary stamp to a panel of judges headed by Svabinsky.

Also prominent in Svabinsky's artistic development was the engraver Eduard Karel, who, while chief of the color printing section of the Grafická Unie printing plant in Prague in 1900, took the younger man under his tutelage. Their association culminated in Karel's engraving of Svabinsky's Masaryk design, Scott type A4.

### References:

- "The 'Hradcany' Issue of Czecho-Slovakia of 1918," by J.W. Lowey, *The American Philatelist*, March 1939, Vol. 52, No. 6, especially pp. 482–486.
- "Czechoslovakia 1920 T.G. Masaryk Issue," by Zdenek Kvasnicka, translated & revised by J.J. Verner, *The American Philatelist*, July & August 1970, Vol. 84, No. 7 (pp. 621–636) and No. 8 (pp. 709–711, 714–716).
- "Alfons Mucha and the First Stamps of Czechoslovakia," by John Velek, *The Essay-Proof Journal* No. 83, Vol. 21, No. 3, 1964, pp. 119–122.
- "Czechoslovakia—The First Anniversary Stamp Design Contest," by John Velek, *The Essay-Proof Journal* No. 118, Vol. 30, No. 2, Spring 1973, pp. 51–55.
- "Contemporary Czech Engravings/Reproductions Philatelic-Syngraphic Souvenirs," by Barbara R. Mueller, *The Essay-Proof Journal* No. 154, Vol. 39, No. 2, Spring 1982, pp. 82–89.





Museum postal card with enlarged reproductions of some of his designs and photograph of the artist in old age.

### Czechoslovakian Stamps Designed by Svabinsky (listed by Scott type numbers)

A4—1920	A141—1949	A358—1958
A10—1922	A168—1951	A361—1959
A84—1938	A245—1953	A363—1959
A89—1938	A287—1955	A369—1959
A116—1946	A306—1956	A391—1960
A126—1948	A317—1957	A399—1960
A130—1948	A323—1957	A417—1961
A131—1948	A353—1958	A419—1962





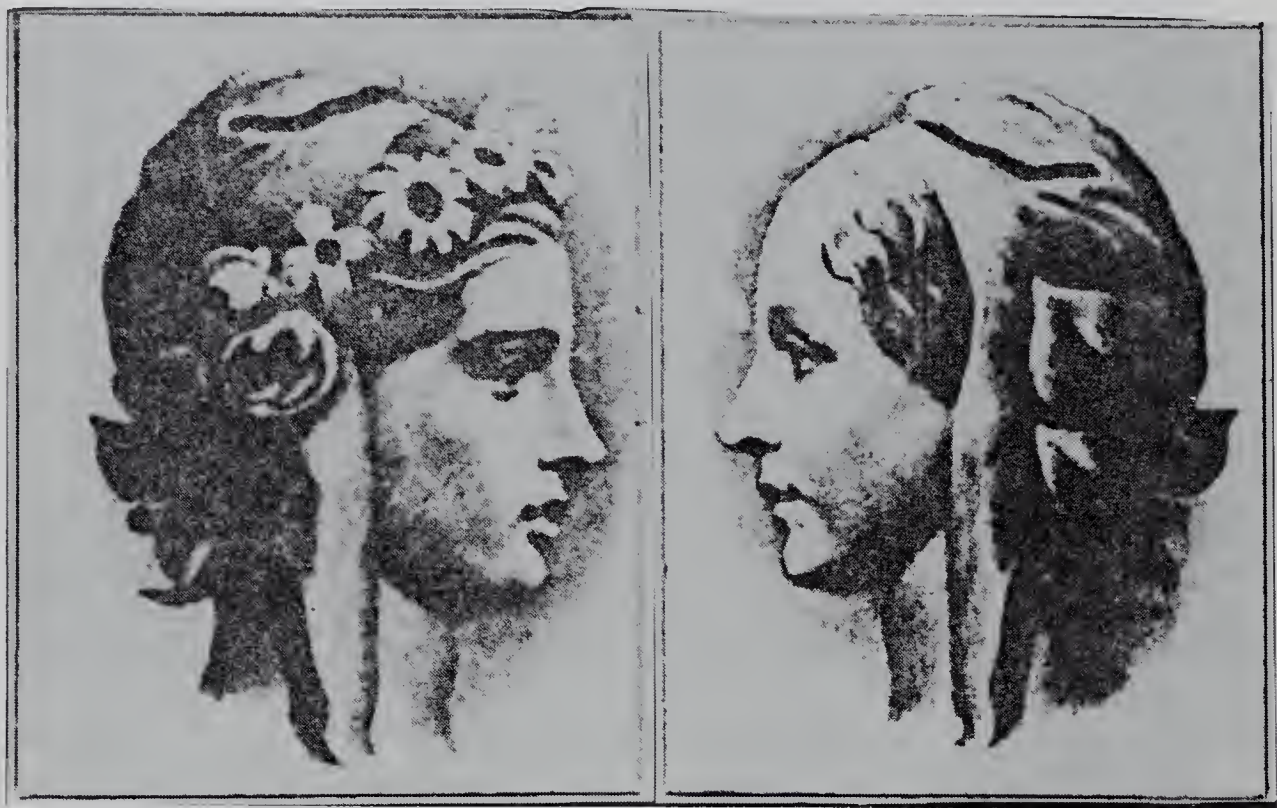
Front (above) and back (below) specimens of the 1000 korun bank note, P26, 1934, picturing František Palacký on the back, designed by Svabinský and engraved by Karel Wolf. For the front, Svabinský used a professional model and two children.



### Future U.S. Self-Adhesive Stamp Contractors Named

In addition to Banknote Corp. of America, two other private printing firms have received USPS contracts for the production of self-adhesive stamps. The largest such went to Stamp Venturers of Fairfax, Virginia for \$29,475,000. An Atlanta firm, Dittler Bros., was awarded a contract for \$28,050,000. The former firm is an outgrowth of previous contractors, Sennett Enterprises and J.W. Ferguson and Sons, while the latter, like BCA, is new to stamp production.





Watermark designs for P26, rejected at left, accepted at right.



Photograph of Svabinsky's burial site with a bust of the artist.



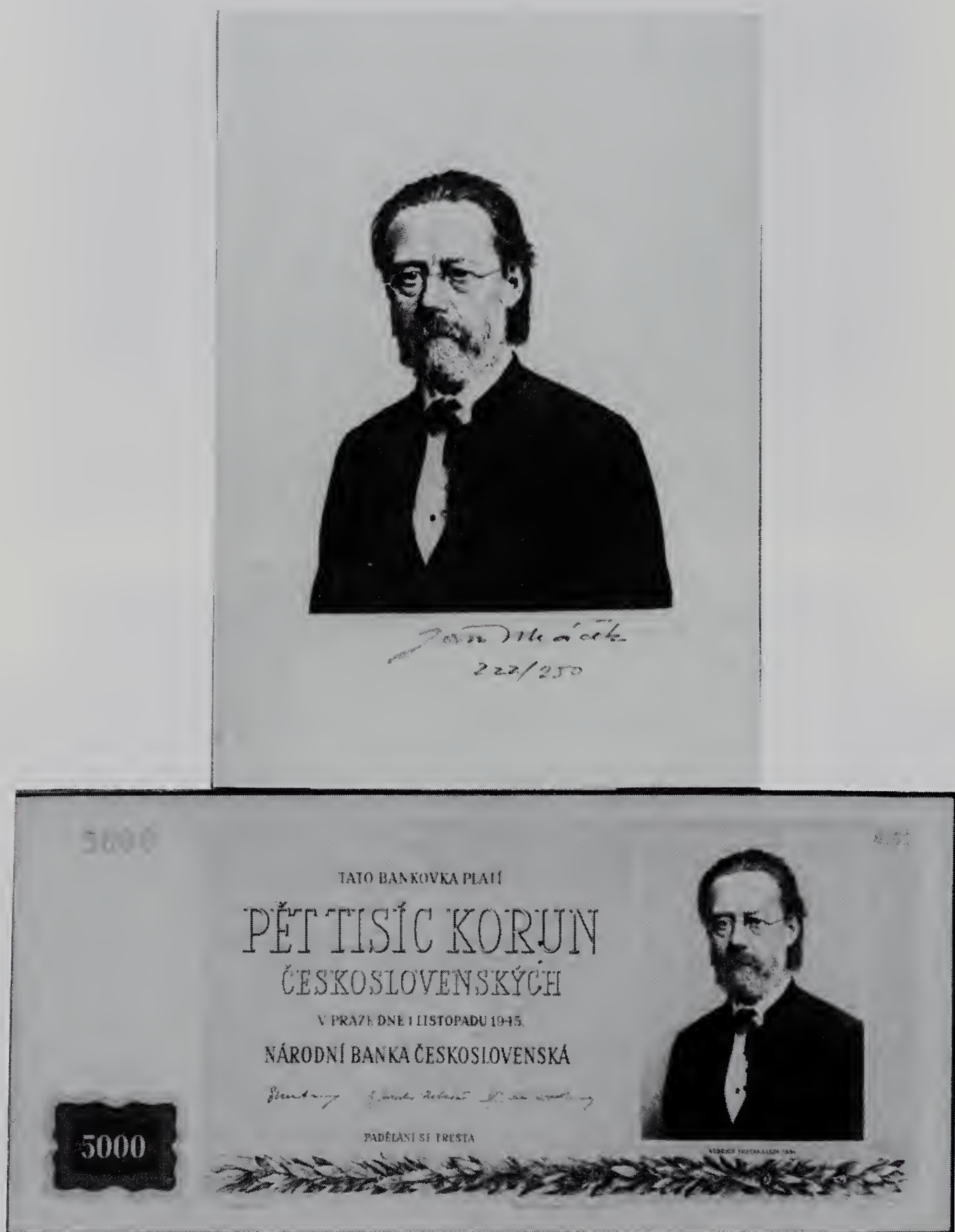


On P24 of 1931, designed front and back by Svabinsky and engraved by Ferdinand Schirnböck, the back bears the portrait of President Masaryk familiar to stamp collectors. The female on the front was based on the model Jarmila Novotna.



### Contracts for Currency and Stamp Inks Awarded

According to *Coin World*, August 28, 1991, SICPA Securink Corp. of Springfield, Virginia has been awarded two contracts to make inks for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. These are "intaglio cylinder wipe green and black" inks for currency which can be applied only by the intaglio printing method so as to prevent counterfeiting, and "typographic Currency Overprinting and Processing Equipment ink" for printing serial numbers and the Treasury seal. This firm has provided BEP with currency intaglio inks since 1983 and with stamp intaglio inks since 1985.



P74, 5000 korun note, 1945, picturing Bedrich Smetana, designed by Svabinsky and engraved by Jan Mracek.





A selection of stamp designs by Svabinsky.

## Gleanings from the U.S. Banknote Corp. Mid-Year Report, 1991

- “The post-merger consolidation of the operations of U.S. Banknote Company L.P. with those of International Banknote Company, Inc. is complete, and we are now operating three domestic plants, down from seven, and one plant in Singapore. All of our key consolidation objectives have been achieved, resulting in significant decreases in costs and overhead but no loss in business. We will continue to fine tune the consolidation going forward through improved facilities utilization and cost efficiencies.”

### Another Archive Sale?

- “The Company had its third auction of archival bank notes and stamps at Christie’s in June, raising about \$1.8 million—roughly three times the pre-auction estimate. That brings the total of archive sales since September of 1990 to about \$12 million, without any auction of the Company’s stock and bond archives. Another auction is possible by mid-to-late 1992.”
- “From a base of about \$125 million in 1990, 1991 sales are projected at in excess of \$150 million. The Company is effectively competing in the ‘secure’ commercial printing business in a number of different areas. One notable example is in postage stamps, where the Company is successfully competing on both price and quality—leading to strong sales growth in this segment.”

## Private Die Proprietary Revenue Archival Proof Material Offered by Ohio Auctioneer

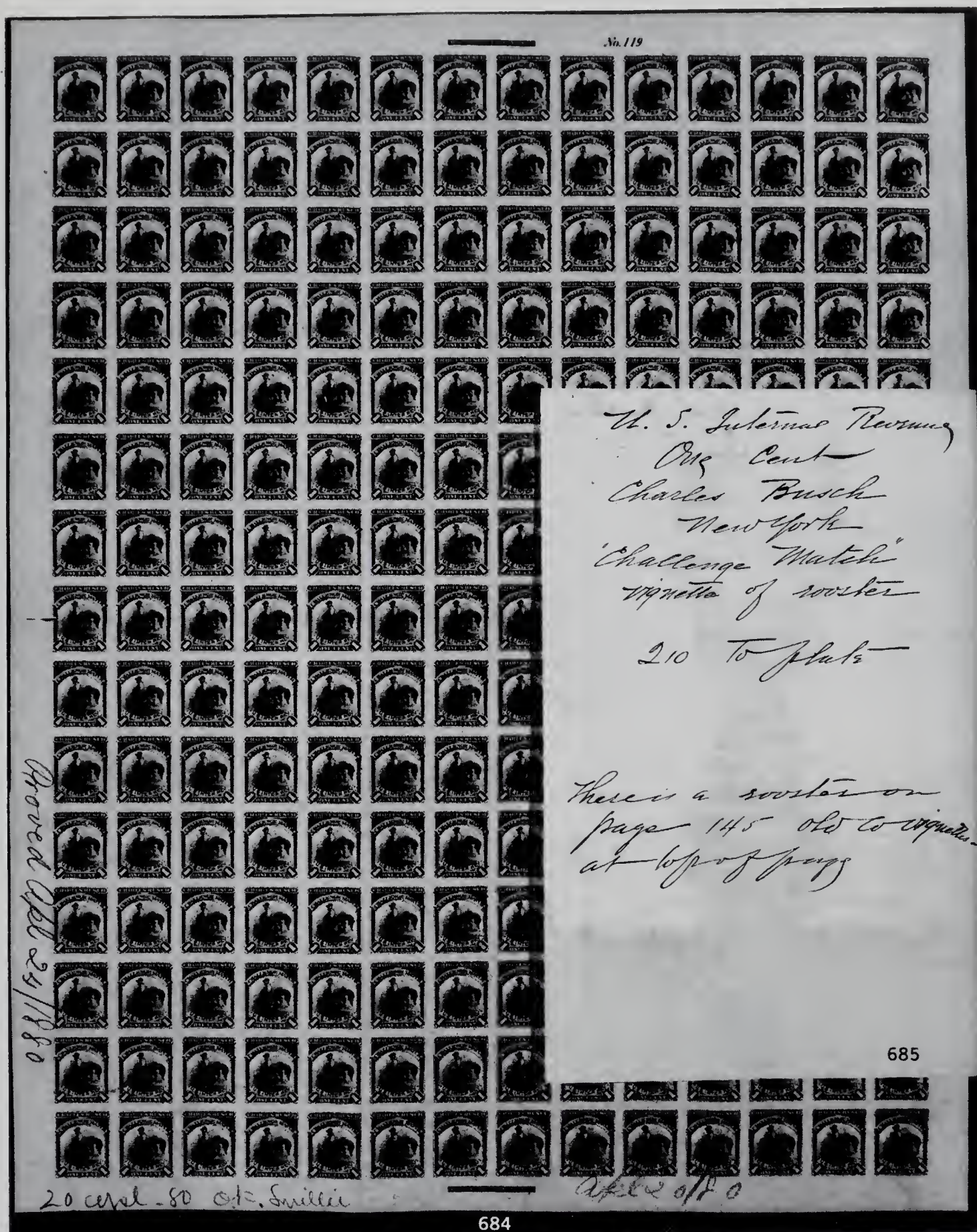
A knowledgeable collector recently remarked that the success of the American Bank Note archive sales would bring more previously unknown essay/proof material "out of the wood-work." Families and heirs of bank note company executives, artists, and engravers will now realize more than ever that such material indeed is marketable. The origin of the material described here is still confidential but its authenticity and high philatelic significance appear to be unquestionable.

A newly emergent auction firm, Herb LaTuchie's House of Collectibles, P.O. Box 67099, in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, 44221, has been offering on a regular basis much unusual essay/proof material, the proprietor himself evidently having a personal taste for it and related philatelic ephemera. One such offering of 34 lots of match and medicine or private die proprietary revenue "archival proof sheets, die proofs, and collateral" was made in his sale of September 13, 1991. While this offering came on the market contemporary with the Morton Dean Joyce revenue proofs, it is not connected with the Joyce material. Indeed, if Joyce were alive and actively collecting at the time, he undoubtedly would have acquired it.

Mr. LaTuchie has kindly given us permission to reprint the auction catalogue descriptions and some illustrations. These descriptions are very thorough and a careful reading will yield much useful information for the researcher. BRM

- 683 Alligator Match Co. Sheet of 210 (14 wide × 15 high) of archival proof sheet; American Bank Note Co. (Issued stamp was RO7) believed to be UNIQUE SHEET, on Bank Note paper, tear bot., affecting 3 stamps and tear upper left, affecting 9 stamps. If tears were closed sheet is VF appearing except for one bot. stamp Plate No. 108 & imprint at top, red crayon bot. margin: "Jany 12/80" 2 vert. and 1 horiz. fold—159 stamps not touched by bends, folds, tears or anything else. These 159 stamps are VF-XF. Most of the others of Fine appearance. There is a green crayon numeral 2 on back of sheet. Est. Cash Val. 9000–10,000.
- 684. Charles Busch sheet of 210 (14" wide × 15" high) of archival proof sheet, American Bank Note Co. (issued stamp was RO47) believed to be UNIQUE SHEET, on bank note paper. 1c black plate no. 119 & imprint at top & bot. Blue crayon in bot. margin: "20 Apl. 80 OK Smillie," also in red crayon "Apr 24/1880" in pencil, 1.1 margin: "Approved Apr 24/1880" 2 vert and 1 horiz fold. Some toning on back. Still a complete and very nice and probably unique sheet, small tear in left margin just touching 1 stamp. Est. Cash Val. 12,500–15,000
- 685. Handwritten by pen notation, discussing the vignette and its source and size of sheet in regard to the Charles Busch stamp (issued stamp was RO47). Est. Cash Val. 50–75
- 686. F. Mansfield & Co. originally a sheet of 210 (14 wide × 15 high) part or all of 10 stamps in U.R. corner of sheet irregularly removed. A total of 5 imprints (2 l., 2 r., ×1 top): "PRINTED BY NATIONAL BANK NOTE CO. NEW YORK." Sheet has been separated vertically through the center of the 6th stamp from the right. Also the upper left margin block of 4 has been cut off from the sheet (and replaced) with notation in ink: "Please send me a flat price with these charges, Smillie Dec 12" also changes have been made, with words inside the circle obliterated and pen notation: "Alligator Match Company Saint Louis" with lines pointing to where these words are to be printed. On L.L. margin in blue: "After 'Alligator'" and on bot. margin in pencil: "for Wm. M. Smillie" (William Main Smillie was a director and top engraver for the American Bank Note Co. from 1868 to 1888). The sheet contain 3 nice imprint blocks of 4 plus 2 imprint blocks close or creased and 146 VF stamps. Balance either creased or torn, but most are quite presentable. In spite of some faults, this is a historic item and undoubtedly the original working sheet and probably unique. Est. Cash Val. 7500–8500





687.  $8\frac{1}{4}'' \times 6\frac{1}{2}''$  note, 2 folds, with instructions to change the Aetna Match Co. label on the stamp to "Alligator" (Match Co.) and other changes. Dated 9/12/79 with blue crayon on front "Alligator Match Co. St. Louis Dec '79", RO130 is pinned to the top of the note. Est. Cash Val. 100-150
688. Bowers & Dunham—large sunken die proof—overall size  $4\frac{3}{8}'' \times 5\frac{15}{16}''$  (Issued stamps RO139 or RO140) Plate No. C437 penciled note top margin: "Sent to CVZ" (this was C.L. Van Zandt, director of Amer. Bank Note Co. 1868 to 1880 and Vice Pres. 1870-1880) penciled notation bot. margin: "Harden & Transfer at once" 7/9/80 JEC with red crayon marking—July 14/80. The stamp is very fine and clean; card margin has some soil and small piece off U.R. corner. Still probably unique and very desirable. Est. Cash Val. 250-500



← EX 691 →

No. 215 & 217 Fulton Street,  
New York, July 12th, 1880

Gentlemen:

Having disposed of the Proprietary Medicine known as "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" to The Anglo American Drug Company, we would respectfully request that all orders for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" be sent to them, as they will conduct the business in same manner as heretofore carried on by us.

Thanking you for the many favors we have received from you, we are,

Yours, very truly,  
Jeremiah Curtis & Sons.

Office of The Anglo American Drug Company.  
215 & 217 Fulton St., New York.


Gentlemen:


Referring to the above, we are prepared to fill all orders for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," viz:

Five Gross, per gross.	\$20 00
Less than Five Gross, per gross.	21 00


John M. King, Secretary.

Anglo American.





(5)



Aug 14 1880

NATIONAL BANK NOTE COMPANY.

Stamps


H.M.P. 7/5  
4/7/83

w Cards &c.                      Date

John F. Henry & Co 24 College Place

Engraving.

Stamp Attached  
to be determined  
Stamp Attached  
Portrait John F. Henry  
Engraved.



Sample

John F. Henry & Co  
Engravers  
New York

693

692

689. Reading Match Co. Sheet of 210 (14 wide × 15 high) (Issued stamp was RO152) Archival Proof Sheet 1c black Plate No. 118 and imprint top & bot., red crayon, bot. margin: "Mch 31/80" 2 gentle vert. and 1 horiz. fold—1 stamp in rt. margin w/small tear o/w fresh. Probably UNIQUE. Small card w/bot of "31 Mch 80" in blue. Est. Cash Val. 12,500–15,000



690. Anglo American Drug Co. (Issued stamp was RS1) Archival proof sheet of 66 on Amer. Bank Note paper, 1c black w/2 plate nos. (#126) and 4 imprints (2 top, 2 bot.) Sheet is 6 wide  $\times$  11 high, 5 stamps damaged (2 of which have pieces out) Vert. fold down center of sheet, not affecting stamps and horiz fold through center—trivial edge faults—Probably unique. Est. Cash Val. 4000–5000
691. Unique large sunken die proof. O.S. measure  $8\frac{7}{8}'' \times 5\frac{15}{16}''$ . Anglo American Drug Co. (issued stamp RS1) plate C494. Attached to lower rt. margin is a copy of RS67 (Jeremiah Curtis' & Sons) on which a paste up of the words "ANGLO AMERICAN DRUG COMPANY" has been placed over the "JEREMIAH CURTIS & SON." On the bot. margin of proof in red crayon: "Aug 14th 1880." On lower left, penciled initials "J E C" and "8/11/80" have been crossed out with green crayon. Above the stamp, in margin, is green numeral "5" and arrow and the same numeral is repeated on the right panel of stamp. Proof is toned all margins and crease L.R. There are 2 pin holes in extreme U.R. of margin of proof where a printed notice had been pinned. Very slight toning on proof and is XF o/w. RS67 has perf faults. Also as part of lot is a printed notice by Jeremiah Curtis & Sons advising that Anglo American has acquired a Proprietary Medicine of theirs (Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup) and the bot. part of a printed page is a confirmation with prices for the "medicine" of the acquisition signed by John H. King, Sec. of the Anglo American Drug Co.; also included is a small part of a card with pin saying in pencil: "App 16 Jan 80 J H F". Est. Cash Val. 500–750
692. National Bank Note work sheet dated "4/7/83", pen initialed "H.M.P." Also in top heading "Mom's 11th Apl 83" in pencil. Also the word "Stamps" is written in ink. Order of: "John F. Henry & Co. 24 College Place" Size of subject & engraving dimensions: "stamp attached" Vignette: "Portrait of John F. Henry." There is a Joseph Burnett stamp (RS46) attached to a small piece of paper pasted to bot. of work order. Also a penciled drawing marked "sample", showing how Burnett vignette could be used on Henry stamp. Stamp is faulty, on a toned piece of paper. The work order has creases & tears and masking tape booking on left side. These faults are of little concern on this unique piece of M & M history. Est. Cash Val. 100–150
693. John Henry large sunken die proof for facsimile label (issued stamp was RS114) overall  $5\frac{7}{8}'' \times 8\frac{7}{8}''$  India mounted on card, light green engraver's marking on back U.L. crease & stain on top margin Entire India is VF. Est. Cash Val. 200–300
694. Sheet of John F. Henry facsimile proofs, black, with imprints "American Bank Note Company, New York" on each of the 4 sides. 10 wide  $\times$  10 high, sheet of 100 w/pen note on rt. margin "OK HMP" and red crayon, bot. margin "June 28/83" green numeral "1" on back, some margin faults, far from stamps; folded once horiz & vert Fresh archival copy of proof sheet. Probably unique. Est. Cash Val. 2500–3500
695. J.E. Hetherington Sheet of 98, 7 wide  $\times$  14 high (Issued stamp was RS121) 3c black. No. 115 Plate no. and imprint top & bot. Blue & red crayon markings bot. margin—"Feby. 26th/86"—3 gentle vert and 1 horiz folds—Archival proof sheet on bank note paper probably Unique. Engraver's penciled notation & numeral "1" in blue on back. Est. Cash Val. 6000–7000
696. Home Bitters Co. (Issued stamp was RS128) Sheet of 36 Archival Proofs Plate no. 104 and imprint at top & bot. 2 wide  $\times$  18 high. Red crayon bot. margin: "Nov 24/79" and blue crayon "Feby 4th/80". 3 gentle vert and 1 horiz folds plus vert fold in extreme margin, of no importance. Probably unique and one of the most impressive and beautiful M & M sheets imaginable. [2c blue]. Est. Cash Val. 8000–9000

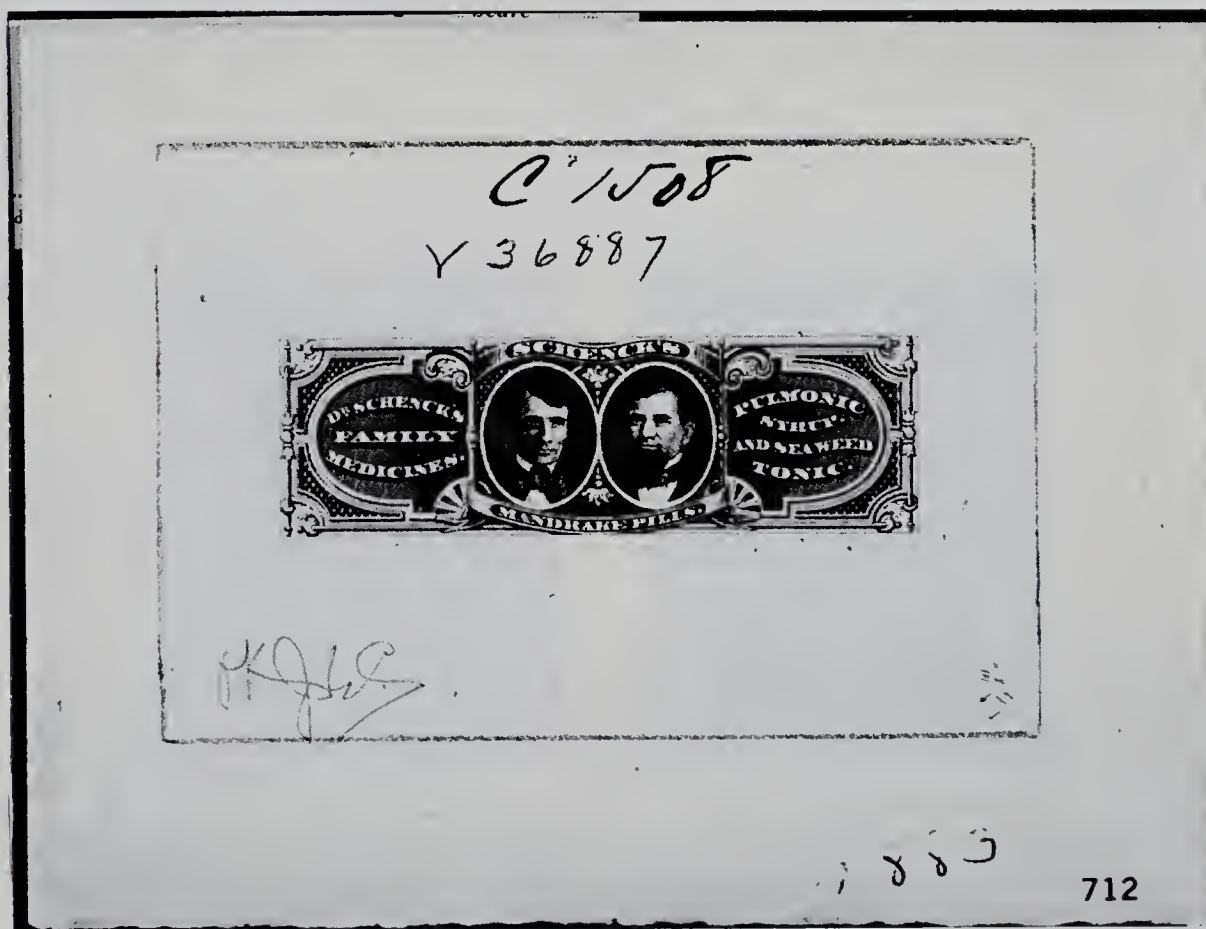
*The following 7 lots are all different varieties of the Proof sheets for the T.J. Husband (RS140) facsimile. As usual with Specimens, all have security holes punched in each stamp. These are the Archive sheets of the American Bank Note Co. with each sheet imprinted in red-violet in a rectangular box at U.R. part of sheet: "Return to Record & Specimen Dept." We are offering these sheets as separate lots so that it may be possible for several collectors to each own one. Not only are there printing varieties, but there are also differences in the shades of vermilion on most sheets.*

697. Specimen (RS140) T.J. Husband, In top margin in red: Specimen 17568 1 vert. fold between 2nd & 3rd row, not affecting stamps—Sheet of 70 (5 wide  $\times$  14 high) Very fresh and very fine. Est. Cash Val. 1250–1500

698. Specimen (RS140) T.J. Husband sheet of 70 pl #65478 in red at top and red violet boxed: "Return to Record & Specimen Dept" T.J. Husband black script overprint and dark blue Specimen overprint 19mm × 3½mm diagonal. Vert. fold between 2nd & 3rd row not affecting stamps. Vert. center fold hardly noticeable & tear U.R. margin into 1 stamp—also slight paper wrinkles.  
Est. Cash Val. 1250–1500
699. Specimen (RS140) T.J. Husband pl #65150 top & red violet box: "Return to Record + Specimen Dept" Also violet boxed U.R. "Return to Issue Room" and black script T.J. Husband overprint. 14mm × 2mm dark blue "SPECIMEN" overprint, diagonally. Vert fold between 2nd & 3rd row, not affecting stamps. 3 small margin tears—1 top, 2 bot., affecting 1 stamp & touching other 2—Sheet of 70.  
Est. Cash Val. 1250–1500
700. Specimen (RS140) T.J. Husband pl #S4O174 in red at top. In red violet: "Return to Record & Specimen Dept", overprint "SPECIMEN" in red diagonally 22½mm × 3mm. Vert. fold between 3rd & 4th row not affecting stamps. An extremely fine sheet T.J. Husband black script overprint. Sheet of 70.  
Est. Cash Val. 1250–1500
701. Specimen (RS140) T.J. Husband pl #99918 in red at top sheet of 70 Red "SPECIMEN" diagonal 11mm × 2mm—Fold between 2nd & 3rd row w/bot row & top margin scissors cut, none of which affects the stamps. Faint fold L.R. corner and vert. center fold. Sheet still VF and rare. Red violet box U.R.: "Return to Record & Specimen Dept."  
Est. Cash Val. 1250–1500
702. Specimen (RS140) T.J. Husband pl #85472 in red at top. Sheet of 70 Red "specimen" 25mm × 5mm Vert. fold between 3rd & 4th row not affecting stamps, 3 small margin edge tears (insignificant, nowhere near stamps). "Return to Record & Specimen Dept" in red violet. U.R.  
Est. Cash Val. 1250–1500
703. Specimen (RS140) T.J. Husband pl #P9166, Top rt margin—T.J. Husband in black script and red Specimen at bot. of stamp—17½mm × 2 ½mm vert fold between 3rd & 4th rows, not affecting stamps, "Return to Record & Specimen Dept" in red violet box, U.R. Sheet of 70.  
Est. Cash Val. 1250–1500
704. Laurence & Martin 4c black Proof Sheet of 30 (Issued stamp RS161), 2 wide × 15 high, #120 plate no. and imprint at top & bot, red crayon bot. margin: "May 6/80" green crayon numeral "2" on back—1 vert & 2 horiz folds—pinholes & tiny thin where a card 4¾" × 1¼" was pinned. The card, included in this lot says, in pencil—"For approval May 4/80 J A O". This is the unique archival working proof sheet.  
Est. Cash Val. 3500–4500
705. Mette and Kanne 3c black (Issued stamp RS180) Proof Sheet of 46, 2 wide × 23 high. Plate no. 106 and imprint at top & bot. Red crayon bot. margin—"Dec 22/79" & blue crayon: "Feby 4th/80"—Vert & horiz fold—1 stamp w/small fault and 2 pin holes bot. margin clear of stamp. Small piece out, extreme rt. margin, inconsequential. Besides being the Unique Archival copy of the American Bank Note Co., the stamp itself is quite scarce.  
Est. Cash Val. 7500–9000
706. A.C. Meyer & Co. Facsimile Proof Sheet of 100 (4 wide × 25 high) Bank Note paper mounted on card. Heavily creased vert (down center) and 3 times horizontally. Penciled notation, bot. margin—"OK JEO" and red crayon "Jany 29/83". Card punched on back—affects only 3 stamps. 60 stamps are not affected by creases, tears, etc. Probably Unique and in spite of condition, a very desirable rarity. For history of this stamp & company, see Lot 715.  
Est. Cash Val. 1250–1750
707. Mishler Herb Bitters (Issued stamp RS181) Archival proof sheet of 51 (17 wide × 3 high) 4c black Plate No. 109. Imprint top & bot. Red crayon bot margin "Jany 15/80" & blue "Juny 27th/80" 3 vert & 1 horiz fold—Penciled rotation and green numeral "1" on back. Pin hole (just touches 1 stamp) opaque stain on back of 4 stamps, barely noticeable on front, small tear bot & left margin, trivial edge wear. Probably unique.  
Est. Cash Val. 5000–6000
708. New York Pharmacal Association—Archive proof sheet of facsimile of RS187, black, w/6 imprints (3 top, 3 bot) of "American Bank Note Co New York" w/penciled "OK JEC" & crayoned "June 20/83" at bot margin. 2 horiz & 1 vert fold, tear center row affecting bot. 2 stamps—Also crease & small tears top left & bot rt margins away from stamps—rt. corner fold not affecting stamps. Undoubtedly unique—numeral 141 in green crayon on back. 2 stamps w/small pencil check marks—Sheet of 30, 3 wide × 10 high.  
Est. Cash Val. 1500–1750



709. New York Pharmacal Association—Archival Proof sheet of 36 (3 wide × 12 high) Similar to previous lot w/same vignette but different shapes center panel and wording changes. 6 imprints of American Bank Note Co (3 top, 3 bot)—horiz. & vert. fold—some wrinkles & creases; tear where folds intersect, affecting 2 stamps (just touches). On India type Bank Note paper. Red crayon bot. margin “June 10/83,” also penciled notation “OK JEC.” Unique Archival working proof sheet.  
Est. Cash Val. 1500–2000
710. N.Y. Pharmacal Assoc. Collateral—Small penciled notation attached to work sheet: “Delivered to U.S.G. Oct 18/1877 Labels” (U.S.G. is the United States Government). The work sheet was the printed heading “NATIONAL BANK NOTE COMPANY”, dated in pen “May 11, 1883” w/initials H.M.P. and red crayon—“Morris May 19/83”, The work order is to “The New York Pharmacal Ass. for 3 labels.” Size of subject. “Drafts herewith” Subjects to impression: #1 33, #2 27, #3 24 Vignettes—“Pig & Mortar” The folded bottom half of the work order contains a vertical strip of 3 w/left margin & part of imprint, with the word National obliterated Stamps are F-VF w/bot stamp of strip w/huge margins. Above the stamps are 3 penciled models, (A large penned “Models May 14th” on side of page) The models are all different, one of which is to be chosen for the label to supplant the stamp. Note that vignette and wording remains the same—only U.S. Int. Rev is removed. (Issued stamp was RS187).  
Est. Cash Val. 150–250
711. Dr. Schenck’s sheet of 44 green facsimile proofs on Bank Note paper based on RS212 w/“U.S. Int. Rev” removed. Archival unique sheet w/various dates & initials in margins. Tear U.R. margin, bot margin & extreme left margin. Tears are not close to stamp designs. Has been stored in the archives folded twice horiz.—both folds practically invisible on face. Deeper vert fold down center of sheet just touching left edge of stamps on top half of sheet. If pressed, sheet would appear never folded Bright, fresh color.  
Est. Cash Val. 4000–5000



712. Dr. Schenck’s large sunken die proof, India on card (Issued stamp was RS213) Black inked C1508 plate number, underneath is inked “C1508” (plate no.) below is penciled “Y36887” L.L. corner of proof penciled “OK JEC” L.R. on board margin, penned 1883, green crayon numeral “2” on back. O.S. measurement is 5 $\frac{7}{8}$ " × 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " unique.  
Est. Cash Val. 500–750

713. Seabury & Johnson Proof sheet of 112 (7 wide  $\times$  16 high) 1c black (Issued stamp was RS216) No. 107 at top & imprint top & bot. various marginal markings—Also a separate piece of paper approx 4"  $\times$  7" mentioning 2 diff. designs dated & name (probably of engraver) This is offered as part of this lot. Sheet has 1 vert & 3 horiz folds, also small card approx 7"  $\times$  1" w/penciled & crayoned notations—"for approval for printing J90 2/79" which had been pinned on bot. margin—pin holes do not touch stamps. Est. Cash Val. 7500–9000
714. S.R. Van Duzer (Issued stamp was RS250) 6c black—original sheet was 6 wide  $\times$  12 high for a total of 72 stamps. 3 stamps from L.R. row have been removed leaving a sheet of 69 remaining stamps. Imprint of American Bank Note Co. at bot. Top margin has been cut so that only the smallest part of pl# and imprint remain. "Feb 12/80" in red crayon bot margin, U.L. margin penned "Approved Feb 12/80" vert & horiz fold, 3 margin tears, affecting 3 stamps (2 of which just slightly) Also 4 tiny pinholes where card is pinned with OK and approval notations. Card is included in the lot. Probably unique, the Archival working sheet. Est. Cash Val. 5000–6500
715. Large Die Proof on India approx 6¼"  $\times$  4" National Bank No Co. N.Y. imprint. The full vignette was first used on Vogeler Meyer Co (RS252) stamp. The Company became Meyer & Co. Sept 6 1882 and remained until Aug 17, 1883 Both firms featured Dr. Bull's Family Medicines—Penned & penciled notations. 2 tiny pinholes above stamp & 2 small holes U.R. Also tiny pin hole lower margin—none touch the stamp. Because of the uniqueness of this proof the faults are inconsequential. Est. Cash Val. 350–500
716. Eagle Card Co. (Issued stamp RU7) sheet of 210, 15 wide  $\times$  14 high, 5c black no. 113 and imprint at top and imprint at bot. Marginal notations—3 vert and 1 horiz fold—very fresh & very fine Archival proof sheet, almost assuredly unique. Est. Cash Val. 15,000–17,500
717. Original drawings in blue pencil on back of part of an American Bank Note Co. statement. Ink notation on statement side: "Eagle Card Co. Dec 1897". Drawings appear to be proposed modification to frames and attached is RU14b (New York Consolidated Card Co). Est. Cash Val. 75–100



### Maltese Revenue Die Proofs

Shown here from the Christie's Robson Lowe catalogue of the May 14, 1991 sale of the Dr. George L. Camillery Malta Collection in London are what is described in lot 551 and listed under revenue stamps as "1946c Malta Nursing Society 1/3d and 5/- Waterlow die proofs in black on card showing die, roller, and proof numbers; also a 5/- blue overprinted 'WATERLOW & SONS LTD./SPECIMEN' and with small punch hole." It sold for £550 against an estimate of £100.





Fig. 1. Prussia 1864.



Fig. 2. Wurttemberg c. 1916.

## The “Golden” Stamps of Germany

by PETER THEUSS

A gold bronze printing was used for essays, proofs, and special printings of some postage stamps and postal cards. Such specimens are known of Prussia (1864); the German Empire (1899); Bavaria (1911); and Wurttemberg (ca. 1916).

### Prussia

Prussia produced for internal purposes of the postal authority a proof sheet in gold bronze of the 3sgr of the 1861/65 issue with plate no. 5 (Figure 1). The sheet was in part cancelled with different local handstamps of which about 15 specimens are known, mostly with the double circle stamp “BERLIN 2.6.64 11-12V.” Some of the cancellations on the sheet were used for removal trials to test the color fastness of the ink (*EPJ* No. 181, p. 31).

#### Proofs

*Pr.1.* 3sgr gold bronze.

*Pr.2.* Same, but with cancellation.

*Pr.3.* As above, but showing attempt to remove cancellation.

### The German Empire

The German Empire issued in 1899 a postal card to observe the beginning of a new century. The decorative design displays “1900” within the rising sun above the clouds, and the value stamp of the 5pf Germania is surrounded by branches with berries tied with a ribbon (Figure 3). The issue was printed on rotary and flat plate presses which differ mainly in the word “Wohnung,” labelled as Type I (10.2mm) and Type II (10mm) respectively. The decorative design is known in several types of the sun’s disk, rays, and the tip of “1(900),” of which most are found on plate printings.

A special printing of this issue, but as view card, was produced in a limited edition of 100 for use of the State Secretary Count von Podbielski (the successor to Heinrich von Stephan). Its decorative design and the address part is printed in copper bronze, the value imprint is blue green, and the reverse side has the multi-colored view of the main post office in Berlin, similar to the design of the 1mk stamp of 1900 (Scott no. 62, Michel no. 63).

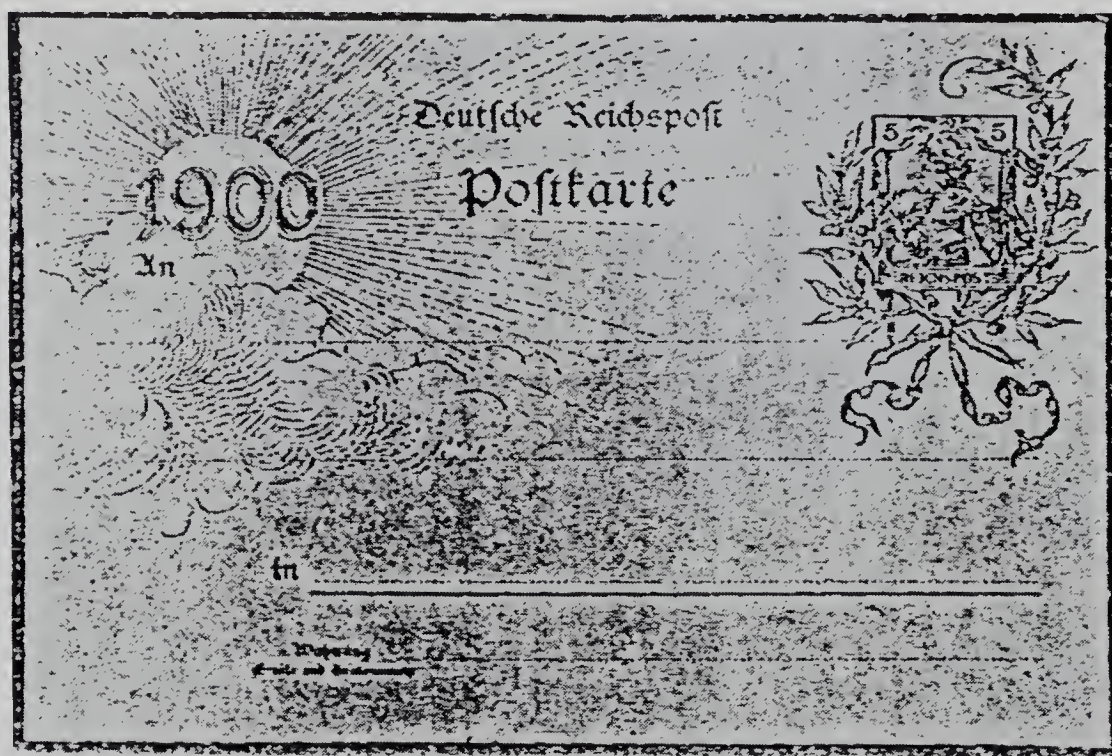


Fig. 3. German Empire 1899.



Fig. 4. German Empire 1899, form part of special printing.

Proofs with value imprint were produced in other bronze colors with the decorative design and the address part in a combination of different shades, while proofs without value imprint display both form parts in one color (Figure 4).

#### Special issues and proofs

*Issue*, 5pf blue green, both form parts in copper bronze, “Wohnung” type I (plate printing), rays penetrate the sun’s disk above “(19)00,” the lower right tip of “1(900)” is missing.

*Pr.1*. 5pf blue green, decorative design in copper bronze, address part in green bronze.

*Pr.2*. 5pf blue green, decorative design in gold bronze, address part in green bronze.

*Pr.3*. Without value imprint, both form parts in copper bronze.

*Pr.4*. Same but in green bronze.



Bavaria

Bavaria had used a coat-of-arms design since 1862, and on the occasion of the 90th birthday of Prince Regent Luitpold the postal authority introduced in March 1911 a commemorative stamp series with his portrait and the anniversary date of 12 Maerz 1911 in the top tablet. This design replaced the preceding issue and was in use until 1914. In spite of its character as “special issue,” it has to be considered, in accordance with UPU regulations, as a regular issue.



Fig. 5. Gold printing in natural size, Bavaria.



Fig. 6. Bavaria, overprint types A, B, C enlarged.



Fig. 7. Bavaria, partial rough line perforation.





Fig. 8. Overprint type A and C on sheetlet, Bavaria.

A short time later another stamp series was required to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Prince's regency, and a special series of postage stamps and a postal card in new designs were issued on 10 June 1911. In developing the latter issue, consideration was given to creating a very special stamp which found its expression in the unusually large format and the decorative frame, as well as in the production of essays in gold bronze.

Presumably the first gold trial in lithography represents a plate printing (10×10) of the 5pf value of the March issue (Scott no. 78, Michel no. 77) which was produced completely in gold on white paper with the edition no. 1 (small, upper left margin) and plate no. XXI (lower right margin). Further trials used the same design but in the larger format of the higher pfennig-values (Figure 5). The printing in green was done in a block of four on sheetlets, 95×134mm, with guide lines on watermarked paper of different colors without and with line perforation  $11\frac{3}{4}$  (Figure 8). These blocks were overprinted with the gold covering different parts of the design, representing three types (Figure 6):

- A. Bottom inscription tablet (dotted screen), vignette ground without portrait and value description, and top inscription tablet (leaving the date itself without overprint).
- B. Same, but value description and date in top inscription tablet with overprint.
- C. As above, but with perforation margin overprinted.

The line perforation was not always carefully applied, and some single essays are known with only a partial rough separation (Figure 7).

#### Essays

- E.1. 5pf gold, format of March 1911 issue, plate printing, white paper, imperforate.
- E.2. 5pf green/gold, larger format, gold overprint type A, watermarked paper in different colors.
  - A. Block of four, imperf., paper a. white      b. green
  - B. Single specimen as above, line perf.
- E.3. Same, but with gold overprint type B.
  - A. Block of four, imperf., paper a. white      b. buff      c. green
  - B. Single specimen, as above, line perf.
- E.4. As above, but with gold overprint, type C.
  - A. Block of four, imperf., paper a. buff      b. green
  - B. Single specimen, as above, line perf.





Fig. 9. Bavaria.

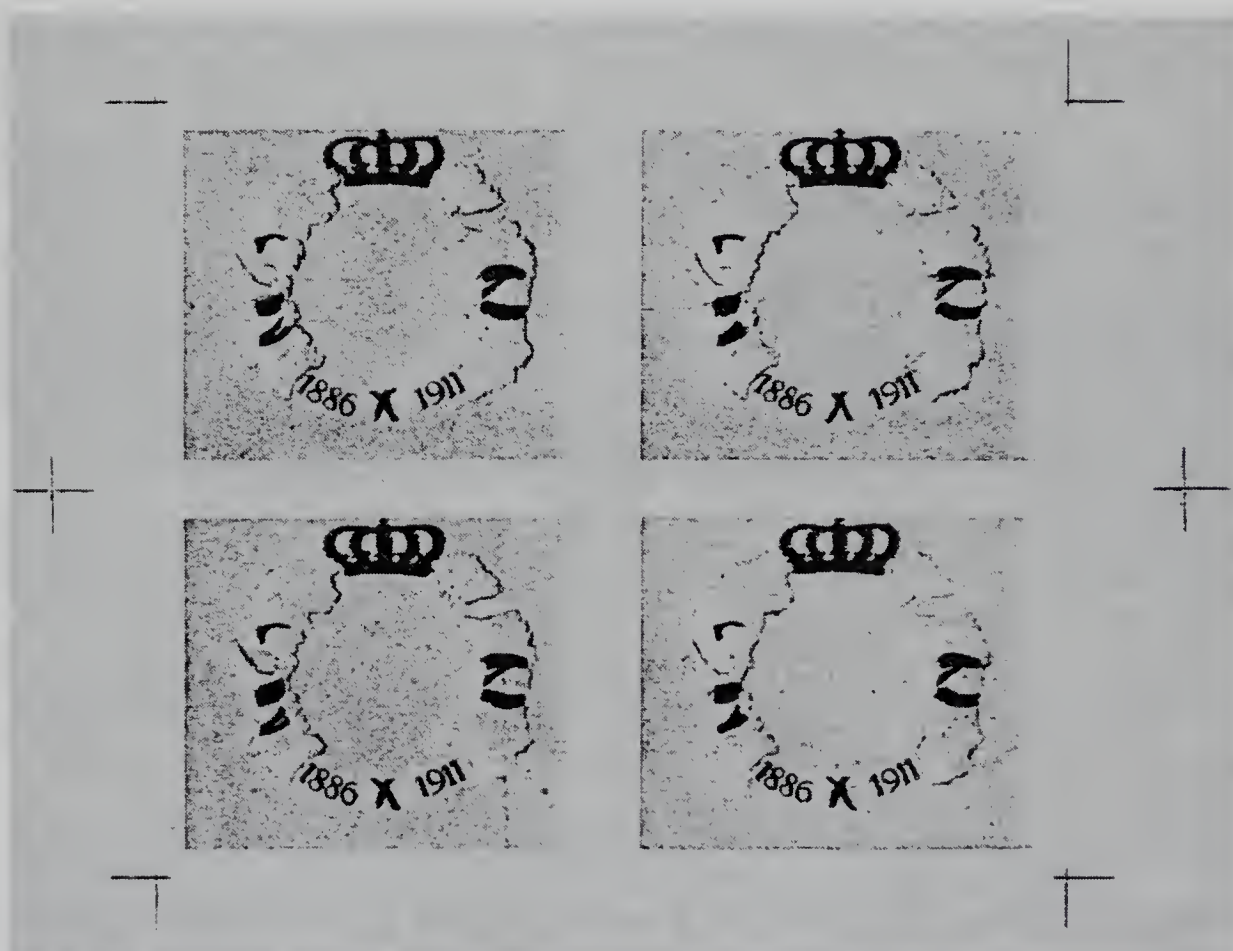


Fig. 10. Bavaria.

Further trials are known in the essay design for the issue of June 1911. The basic design, which had been accepted, displayed initially the wreath with a crown. The Regent, however, had not been crowned, which made the use of this symbol inappropriate, and for the issue an inter-

twined ribbon was used as a substitute. The printing was done in lithography as a block of four on white gummed paper on sheetlets, 150×100mm, either completely in gold (the specimens were apparently lost during the war) or with partial gold printing (crown, dates, ribbons on wreath) (Figures 9 and 10). At the same time the value imprint of the commemorative postal card in the design of an oak trunk with crown by Jul Diez was produced as a postage stamp in gold with line perforation (Figure 5).

#### Essays

- E.1. Gold printing, block of four, imperf, 5, 10pf.
- E.2. Color phase printing, stamp design in one color, block of four, imperf.  
5pf green/gold, 10 pf red/gold
- E.3. Color phase printing of secondary colors, block of four, imperf.  
a. light green/gold      b. rose/green/gold
- E.4. 5pf gold, oak trunk with crown, line perf.

### Wurttemberg

The Wurttemberg gold printing proof is known as an official envelope without form part. It is probable that, similar to the gold trials of Bavaria for a special occasion, the postal authority likewise decided to produce such proof in conjunction with the special official stamp issue commemorating the 25th jubilee of King Wilhelm II. The value imprint used for this purpose is the 1mk official postage stamp die of the 1881/1917 issues, which was printed in the rather unusual position of the left upper corner (Figure 2).

Proof, 1mk gold bronze on envelope, 140×90mm.

#### Sources

Archiv für Postgeschichte in Bayern 1958, Nr. 2.  
Jakubek auction, Hamburg 1988.  
Postabteilung des Verkehrsmuseums, Nuremberg.  
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Georg Schenk. "Entwürfe und Probedrucke zu Ganzsachen der Deutschen Reichspost sowie der deutschen Kolonial-und Auslandsposten." In: Festschrift 25 Jahre BGSV, Berlin 1926.  
H.C. Schulz. "Once every hundred years." In: *German Postal Specialist* 1965, No. 9.  
Sammlung H. Winkler.

### Banknote Corp. of America Receives First U.S. Stamp Contract

The short history of the Banknote Corp. of America, set up as competition so that International Bank Note/American Bank Note could merge with U.S. Banknote, was given in JOURNAL 191, p. 118. The firm, a subsidiary of the French François-Charles Oberthur Group, occupies ABN's former plant in Ramapo, New York. According to a report in the November 2, 1991 issue of *Stamp Collector*, BCA has been awarded a three-year contract for \$5,737,500 for the manufacture of sheetlets and coils of self-adhesive stamps.



Significant U.S. Air Post Essay/Proof Material  
in Christie’s Sale of the “Aurea” Collection in  
New York, Sept. 25, 1991

This small but significant collection was assembled “by an advanced collector” with the guidance of the late Irwin Heiman, a leading dealer in aerophilately. Most of the items were purchased in major auctions in the 1960s and no later than 1975.

The first lot was a proof of the American Bank Note Co. “specimen” stamp design used in salesman’s sample books. This was discussed in JOURNAL 156, Vol. 39, No. 4, Fall 1982, pp. 193–195 in a description of an ABNCo. sample book. This same design was also used on the U.S. Postal Service commemorative panel (Scott 8CP) for the 8c Stamp Collecting issue of 1972, which panel was also prepared by ABN. Surely the realization of \$1,100 against an estimate of \$800–1,000 is the greatest ever for a salesman’s sample item!

The auctioneer’s description of this lot #1 reads:

- 1

American Bank Note Co. Aviation Stamp Essay, circa 1920, ‘Specimen/Aviation/2’ Brick Red die proof on India, 100 × 73 mm mounted on card, pencil inscription at top reads ‘March 3/31 Last J12586 Plate’, minor toning on card, very fine and extremely rare essay, another example appeared in the Thomas A. Matthews sale (H.R. Harmer, Nov. 4, 1964) where it was described as one of two known, a third impression was contained in the American Bank Note Co. archives, this essay is one of the earliest stamp designs to depict an airplane. . . . . est. \$800–1,000

1,100

Next of interest was lot #6; estimated at \$6,000–8,000, it brought \$11,550. This essay now appears in Scott’s Specialized Catalogue as C3-E2. The auctioneer’s description is:

- 6

24c Blue & Black 1918 Air Post trial color essay on wove (C3E), 40 + 37 mm, the Curtiss ‘Jenny’ bi-plane without serial number and the plumes in frame above numerals incomplete, light diagonal crease.

*The American Air Mail Catalogue* records the following proof items: two normal large die proofs, a third large die proof with orange-red frame, two large die proofs of frame only and a large die proof of the vignette only. Mention is made of a ‘small trial color proof with the vignette in black and the frame in blue’. We presume the catalogue editors were referring to this essay without noting the significant differences between its design and the issued stamp.

TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, THIS ESSAY OF THE WORLD’S FIRST AIR POST DESIGN IS UNIQUE. A MOST IMPORTANT ESSAY LEADING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CURTISS ‘JENNY’ STAMP. . . . . est. \$6,000–8,00011,550

The remainder of the lots in the Aurea collection consist of various die proofs described as follows:

- 14

8c–24c 1923 Air Post large die proofs on India (C4P1–C6P1), die sunk on cards, fresh and very fine, an extremely rare set of proofs, ex President Roosevelt, Scott retail \$16,500.00 . . . . . est. \$6,000–8,000

11,550
- 15

10c–20c Map 1926 Air Post large die proofs on India (C7P1–C9P1), die sunk on cards, each with typed and autographed approval of Postmaster General Harry S. New, fresh and very fine set, only six sets known according to the AAMC, Scott retail \$12,000.00 . . . . . est. \$6,000–8,000

8,250
- 16

10c Lindbergh 1927 Air Post small die proof on wove (C10P2), 53 × mm, very fine, this is the only known small die proof according to the AAMC, ex Grunin, Scott retail \$4,000.00. . . . . est. \$3,000–4,000

4,400

- 17

5c Beacon 1930 Air Post large die proof on India (C11P1), die sunk on card with typed and autographed approval of Postmaster General Harry S. New, **very fine**, only six large die proofs known according to the AAMC, Scott retail \$4,250.00 . . . . . est. \$3,000–4,000

4,620

•18

65c–\$2.60 Graf Zeppelin large die proofs on India (C13P1–C15P1), the complete set die sunk on cards, very fresh and clean.

According to *The American Air Mail Catalogue*, there is only this set of large die proofs and another presented to Dr. Hugo Eckener, head of the German Zeppelin Transport Company. In addition, one or two sets of small die proofs and transfer roll proofs exist in public hands.

VERY FINE. THIS COMPLETE SET OF LARGE DIE PROOFS WAS A HIGHLIGHT OF PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT’S COLLECTION AND RANKS AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT AEROPHILATELIC ITEMS EXTANT. Ex President Roosevelt, Matthews. Scott retail \$28,250.00 . . . . . est. \$20,000–30,000

33,000

•33

8c Winged Globe 1932 Air Post large die proof on India (C17P1), die sunk on card, fresh and **very fine**, extremely rare, stated to be unique in the AAMC, ex Matthews, Scott retail \$2,750.00. . . . . est. \$2,000–3,000

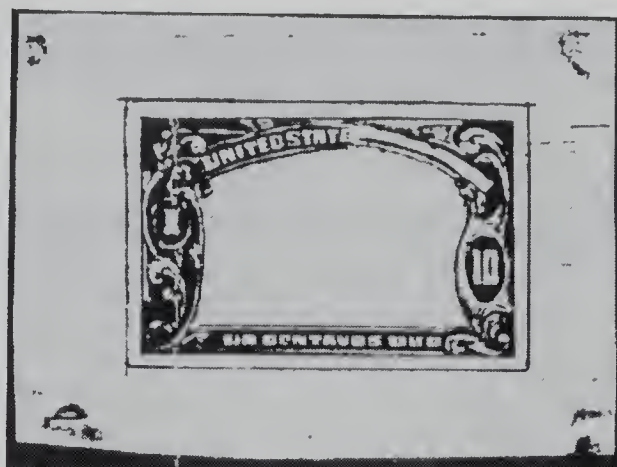
3,850

•34

50c Chicago Zeppelin small die proof on yellowish wove (C18P2), 54 × 27 mm, **very fine**, stated to be the only small die proof known in the AAMC, ex Matthews, Scott retail \$5,750.00 . . . . . est. \$4,000–5,000

8,250
- 
- Great Britain Essays by De La Rue, 1880
- Included in the March 12, 1991 Christie’s Robson Lowe London sale were several essays for the so-called 1880–82 Consolidated Contract. Illustrated on the catalogue cover was one of eight essays submitted by De La Rue on May 31, 1880 from an original set of 14 (six of which are now in the National Postal Museum). Only one of each design, handpainted in black and white, was produced. The one represented here sold for £1,100 against an estimate of £400.





In this photocopy of the essay the characteristic notebook paper lines are visible.

## Charles Mack-Type Essay Declared “Genuine” by Philatelic Foundation

by BARBARA R. MUELLER

Listed in the September 19–20, 1991 auction sale catalog of Cherrystone Stamp Center of New York was the following lot:

“original artist drawing in black and magenta inks prepared for the Louisiana Purchase stamp design competition, showing denominations “1” and “10” and inscriptions in both English and Spanish, v.f. with PFC stating “genuine,” but declining opinion on the country of origin or the proposed issue.”




Shown here is the Philatelic Foundation certificate alluded to in the description (with submitter’s name blacked out). It can be seen that the Foundation did not agree with his attribution of “323E-variety, pencil and ink drawing of frame.” Instead, the conclusion was that “it is genuine but decline opinion as to its country of origin or its proposed issue.”

Evidently the experts at the Foundation have not followed my long-running series of reports on these essays in this JOURNAL beginning in 1975. They climaxed in the article “Designer Identified; Authenticity Established” in JOURNAL 184, Vol. 46, No. 4, 4th Quarter 1989, wherein the essays were attributed to Charles Mack of the American Bank Note Co. If they had read this article, they would not have come to the conclusion that the item is a genuine “whatizzit.” One wonders how the “genuine” appellation can be given to something they admittedly know nothing about.

In any case, the essay is of a type previously unreported in our series and is probably genuine for its genre. It is in typical Mack style, on lined, school notebook paper, with meaningless and/or nonsensical incomplete inscriptions, and dual side ornament and numeral treatments. There is really very little in common with the Louisiana-Purchase issue of 1904, for which there was no design competition (at least according to Johl), and as readers of this JOURNAL know, Mack was not active then. His work spanned the 1920s, ’30s, ’40s, and early ’50s for ABNCo. He was not a Bureau of Engraving and Printing employee, and of course, the Louisiana Purchase stamps were printed at the Bureau.

There is really no way to determine what this “thumbnail sketch” or experiment was intended to be, but it is likely that it falls into the category of Latin-American issues on which

Mack predominately worked. His sketches continue to turn up at auction sales and for the most part consignors and describers fail to note the research that has been done on them.

		<b>THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATION</b> 21 EAST 40 <sup>TH</sup> STREET NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016 <b>EXPERT COMMITTEE</b>		No. 0239892 5/03/91
We have examined the enclosed item, of which a photograph is attached, and described by the applicant as follows:				
Country:	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA			
Cat. No.	Issue	Denom.	Color	
	1904	1¢/10¢	mag., wht., gry	
<small>Scott's unless otherwise specified.</small> UNUSED 323 E-VARIETY, PENCIL AND INK DRAWING OF FRAME.				
AND WE ARE OF THE OPINION THAT:  IT IS GENUINE BUT DECLINE OPINION AS TO ITS COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OR ITS PROPOSED ISSUE.				
		239892  For The Expert Committee ACTING Chairman		

The Philatelic Foundation certificate.



## President's Report

In a year in which an incredibly large number of essays and proofs were brought to market, the results should be gratifying both to the sellers as well as the buyers. Of course, a preponderance of the items sold this past year fell in the category of United States revenues, but there was also the vast archive of The American Bank Note Company, which included a wide range of foreign material. Prices were surprisingly strong in almost every area and the number of buyers, despite some glum predictions, proved to be greater than anticipated. The dollar totals must be in the neighborhood of \$12 to \$15 million, so any talk about the demise of collecting in our field is premature.

We can take heart that interest in the field has been stimulated, particularly with the injection of hundreds and thousands of collectible items which were never previously available or were out of the market for decades, some a half century or more.

This should give us all renewed confidence in the strength of our hobby and help us promote our organization. Continued research and information appearing in the pages of our JOURNAL can enhance our appreciation of essays and proofs. The co-operation of our members, particularly in contributing to the contents of THE ESSAY-PROOF JOURNAL, will aid us in providing sound foundations for present as well as future collectors. Much has been done; much more can and should be done. Every member can add something. "It takes only one drop of water to fill a bucket to overflowing," to quote an ancient proverb. Let us have your "drop of water."

We participated in the November ASDA National Postage Stamp Show in New York with a booth promoting our Society. Mr. Fred Grill, one of our New York members, assisted. In March, 1991, we will have a booth at Interpex. Any member who can spare a few hours to help should contact me. These shows provide an opportunity to meet and discuss common interests with fellow collectors.

Thanks to our many contributors and unstinted praise and my heartfelt gratitude to our Editor, Barbara Mueller, and our Secretary-Treasurer, David McGuire, for their untiring efforts in the conduct of the business of our society.

LOUIS K. ROBBINS

(The 1990-91 financial report of The Essay-Proof Society is available to members who send an addressed, stamped, legal-sized envelope to Secretary-Treasurer David McGuire, R.D. #4, Colonial Drive, Katonah, NY 10536.

### **Robson Lowe Named Honorary Member of the Royal Philatelic Society, London**

On June 22, 1991, the Royal Philatelic Society, London created a new category of membership for "suitably qualified Professional Philatelists." Criteria for candidates are that they should be of international standing and unimpeachable integrity within the profession; have formed significant collections and have displayed them or published research on them for the benefit of collectors; and have provided service to philately generally, and preferably to the Society also."

Dr. Alan Huggins, president of the Royal, then announced that Robson Lowe has been unanimously elected as the first professional Honorary Member of the Society. Mr. Lowe is a long-time benefactor of The Essay-Proof Society, generously furnishing us with information on the many unusual collectibles that pass through his hands and that of his firm, Christie's Robson Lowe. Our congratulations to him on this signal honor.

Contributions to The Essay-Proof Society,  
1990–91 Fiscal Year

Joseph J. Adamski . . . . .	5.00	Gene Hessler . . . . .	5.00
Edward P. Babcock . . . . .	10.00	Walter H. Hoffmann . . . . .	80.00
Daniel M. Bagby . . . . .	20.00	Robert K. Holton . . . . .	100.00
Richard J. Balbaton . . . . .	5.00	Dr. Douglas D. Hunter . . . . .	20.00
Charles I. Ball . . . . .	5.00	C.R. Kannewurf . . . . .	5.00
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Secretary’s Report

by Barbara R. Mueller, Promotional Secretary  
225 S. Fischer Ave., Jefferson, WI 53549

Members Admitted

- 1787 La Tuchie, Herb, 501-C 1445 Gulf of Mexico Dr., Longboat Key, FL 34228 (Dealer), by Louis K. Robbins
- 1788 Guadio, John J., P.O. Box 280828, Lakewood, CO 80228 (Canadian revenues)
- 1789 Piller, Stanley M., 3351 Grand Ave., Oakland, CA 94610 (Dealer/Collector)
- 1790 Kerman, Arnie, Box 2877, Stamford, CT 06906
- 1791 Tilles, Dr. Harvey G., P.O. Box 5466, High Point, NC 27262 (patent essays), by Louis K. Robbins

Deceased

- 190 Ball, Charles I.



## U.S. 1847 Essays Sell at Lower Price at July 1991 Auction

On July 15-16, 1991 Superior Galleries of Beverly Hills, California conducted the "Father Flanagan's Boys Home Stamp Auction." Although 31 pages of the massive catalogue were dedicated to a history of Boys Town and its Stamp Center, no provision was made to identify those individual lots which came from the Boys Town consignment. However, it is unlikely that lots 92-94 came from that source, since they consist of the 5c and 10c U.S. 1847 essays offered individually and then as one lot. These so-called unique models have been described in JOURNAL 166 of 1985. This time they sold as one lot for \$9,900 including 10% buyer's fee, which is considerably less than a previously recorded private sale at \$13,500. The note in the newly-added essay section of Scott's 1992 U.S. Specialized Catalogue that says their status "has been questioned" further fuels the controversy over these items.

### **WANTED: FOR EXHIBIT**

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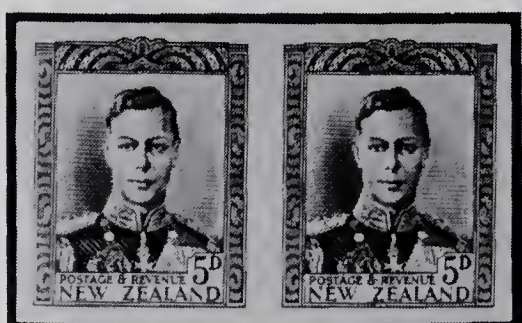
It is suggested that you specify alternatives where possible because only one or two of each item is available. On orders for the blocks of the George VI definitives, please indicate whether you will accept pairs if the blocks have been broken. Any item is returnable within 7 days of receipt if not completely to your satisfaction.

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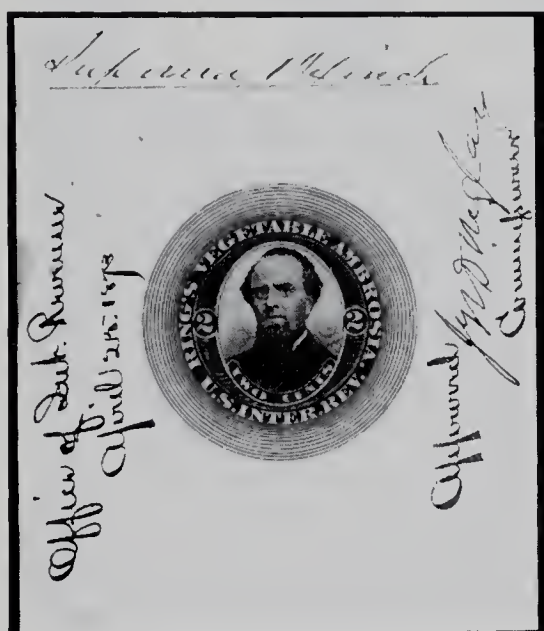


Member APS



# Private Die Proprietary Models, Essays and Proofs

We are pleased to announce our purchase of the major portion of the Morton Dean Joyce collection of these fascinating issues. Included are original models and die proofs with approval signatures of Internal Revenue officials, regular and trial color die proofs, and plate proofs. The collection originated in the archives of Butler and Carpenter, engraver and printer of many of the private die stamps. The collection was obtained from Joseph R. Carpenter by E. B. Sterling in 1890, who later sold it to Hiram Deats. Mr. Joyce acquired the collection from Deats in the 1940s. Most of these items have never before been available for purchase by collectors.



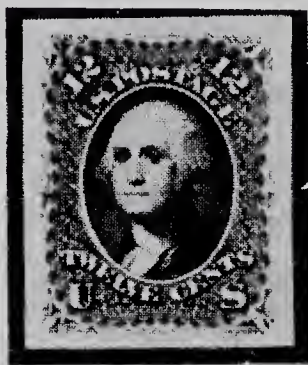
We are currently preparing this collection for sale. Collectors interested in the area are invited to contact either of us at the address or phone below:

## Phil Bansner

P. O. Box 2529  
West Lawn, PA 19609  
215-678-5000  
FAX 215-678-5400

## Eric Jackson

P. O. Box 728  
Leesport, PA 19533  
215-926-6200  
FAX 215-926-0120

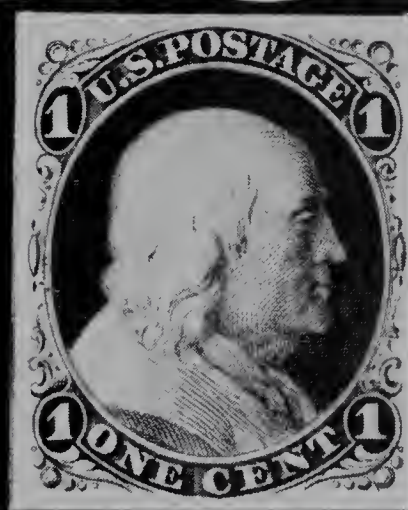
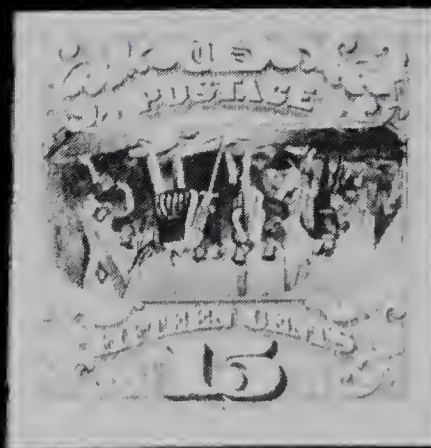


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